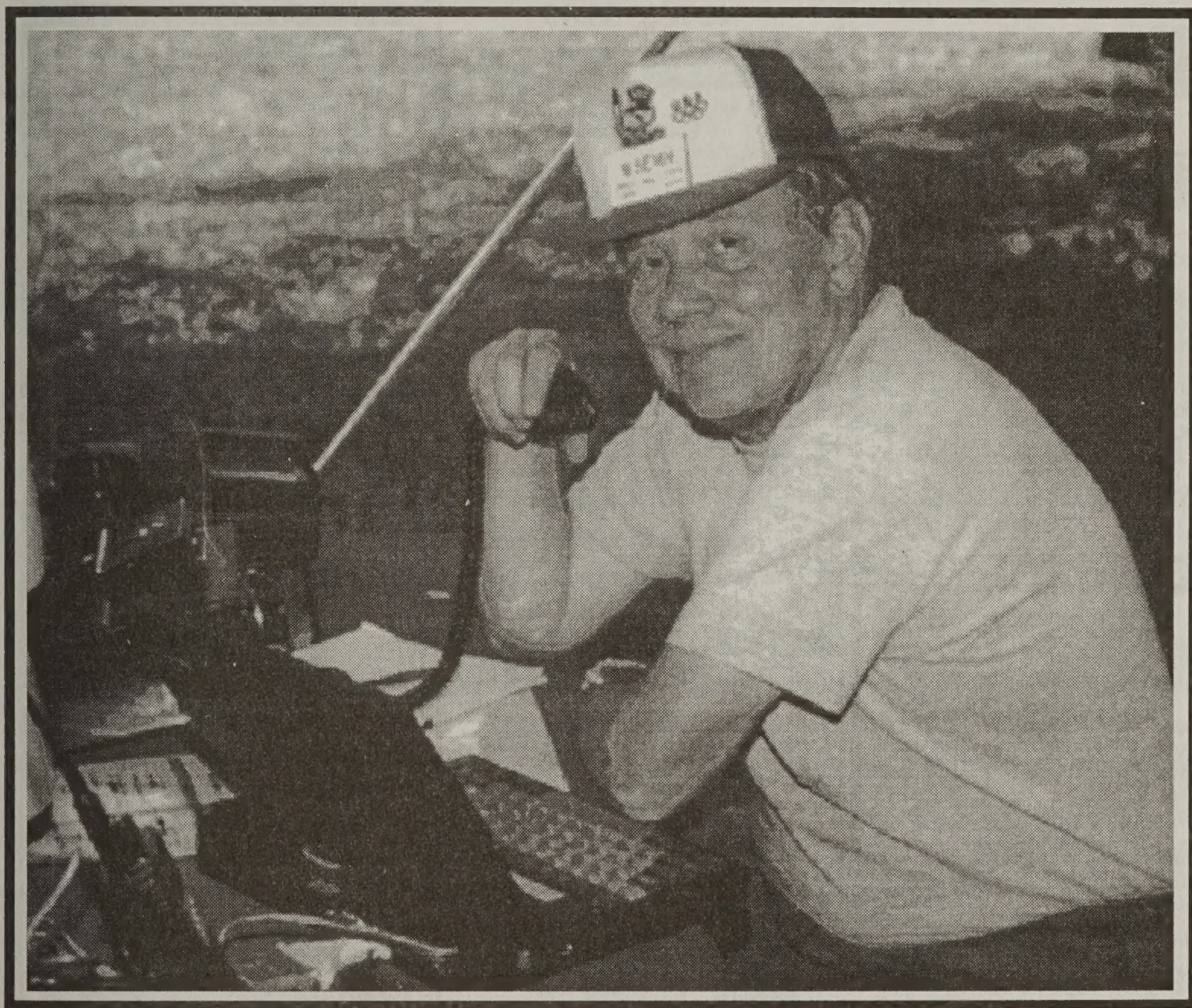




The Official Journal of the Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

OCTOBER 1997



Rules and Regs • ARRL Report • VE Exams Schedule
Public Service Report • DX Column • Regional Hamfests
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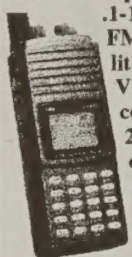


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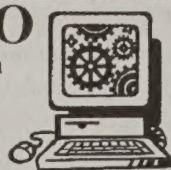
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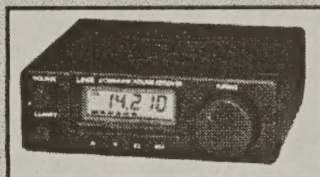
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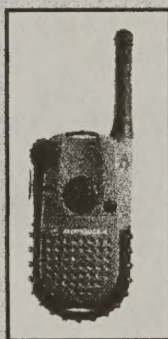
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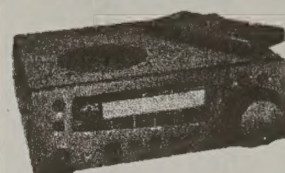


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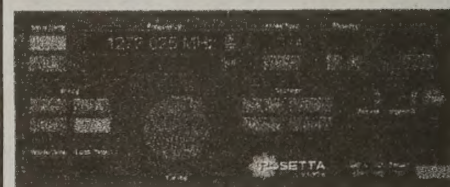
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Regional Hamfests and Other Events

October 3-4	HOSSTRADERS, Rochester, NH	207-469-3492
October 5	CARA Hamfest, Howard County Fairgrounds, MD	410-531-2933
October 10-12	ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference	www.amrad.org
October 26	Mason-Dixon Computer & Hamfest, Westminster, MD	717-633-6641
November 8	Grand Strand ARC, Myrtle Beach, SC	803-215-0474
November 22-23	Florida State Convention, Tampa, FL	813-525-5178



National Capital ARES Council Public Service Calendar

S/S	Oct 11/12	ARRL SET
Sun	Oct 12	Clifton Days - KC4RON
Sat	Oct 18	Loudoun Hospital Move (ARES Support)
Sun	Oct 26	Marine Corps Marathon - N4ZGI

FOR DETAILS ON THESE EVENTS, CHECK INTO THE NCAC NET EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT AT 9:00 PM LOCAL TIME ON NVFMA'S 146.910 REPEATER.



...submissions are due the 1st day of the month prior to the month of publication.
Submit all Club Columns, Shack Sales, and commercial advertising copy to:

John Queen, Editor, Auto Call Magazine
755 Woodland Way, Owings, MD 20736

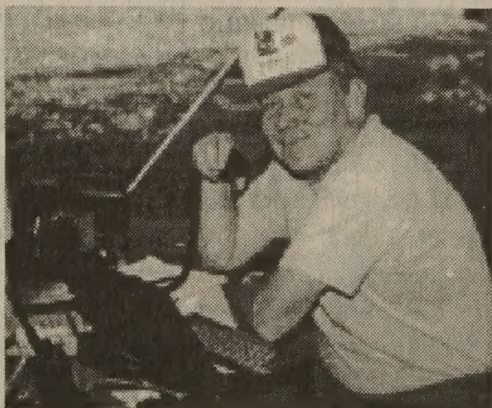


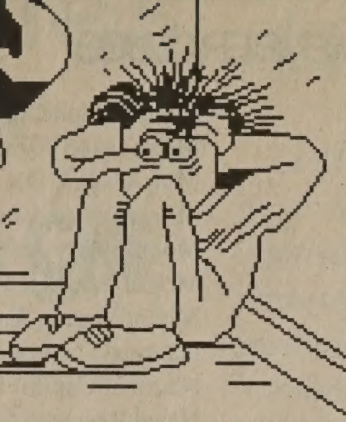
Photo by Mike Weber WB8RDN

On The Cover

Pictured on this months' issue of Auto Call is Bill Frisbie, Sr., W3EMH operating at Field Day this past June. Bill, who is a licensed as an Amateur Extra, is a member of the Dulles Amateur Repeater Group (DARG).

Editor's Corner

By John Queen
KAØSEY



It never ceases to amaze me how ham radio operators come up with innovative ways to breed antenna farms. Specifically, mobile antenna farms.

I'm sure you've all driven down the road at one time or another and spotted several dozen antennas whipping through the breeze at 55 MPH. And if you looked closely, you saw a car or truck attached to the bottom of those antennas.

You can always find a HamFest or ham radio meeting in progress just by looking in the parking lot. Vertical whips, magmounts, Outbackers, Isoloops, dual-banders, HF, VHF, UHF, just about everything short of a Tri-Beam.

Many years ago in California, I remember seeing a station wagon that must have had 50 or more antennas mounted on the top, sides, and back of the car. It was parked at the Coast Guard base where I was stationed. I was twenty-one at the time.

Being curious by nature, I peeked inside the car and noticed that the front passenger seat had been replaced by row after row of radios, scanners, and other electronic equipment. In the back of the station wagon were several banks of batteries, each with dozens of wires attached in neat bundles leading to the front of the car.

A thick bundle of coax wires were mounted to what appeared to be a specially designed series of brackets leading up to the roof. On the top of the dashboard, a large panel extending the width of

the window contained enough switches, lights, and buttons to make any 747 jet pilot swell with pride.

I couldn't help but wonder what demented mind would alter a perfectly good station wagon to the point that the only place to sit was in the driver's seat -- and barely at that. Even the steering wheel couldn't escape mutilation, as more switches and knobs were mounted strategically on its rim with trunks of cabling disappearing under the dashboard.

I marveled at the electronic engineering of this highly unique vehicle, pondering what strange and unusual type of person owned it. Just then, a strange and unusual type of person approached me.

He was a rotund man in his mid-fifties with a gleam in his eye, a grin on his face, and a pair of hand-helds on his hip. We talked for a few minutes, and he explained how some of the equipment was used. (At the time, it was way over my head).

After his five-minute demo, he squeezed himself into the driver's seat and drove off -- the mass of vertical steel flapping in the wind. I don't remember his name, much less his call-sign, but I do remember convincing myself that this ham radio stuff obviously wasn't for me.

That was twenty years ago, I saw that same car about five years later. I've been a licensed ham for the past fifteen years. You do the math...

73's, de KAØSEY, John



MEMBER CLUBS

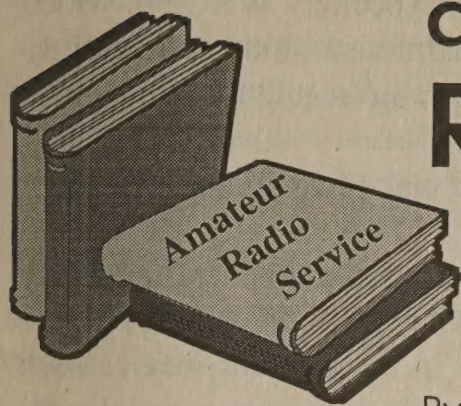
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Frederick Amateur Radio Club	Del-Mar-VA Chapter #150
Frederick Amateur Repeater Group	Shenandoah Valley Chapter #137
Goddard Amateur Radio Club	Vic Clark Chapter #91
Green Mountain Repeater Association	Washington Chapter #23
Hanover Area Hamming Association	Rock Creek Amateur Radio Association
Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club	St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
IBM Amateur Radio Club	Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Johns Hopkins University APL ARC	Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club
KB3BOI Repeater Group, Inc.	Southern Patuxent Amateur Radio Club
Kent Island Amateur Radio Club	Stafford Amateur Radio Assn.
Laurel Amateur Radio Club	Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club
Leisure World Amateur Radio Club	Summit Amateur Radio Association
Loudoun Amateur Radio Group	Tri-County Amateur Radio Club
MD/DC MARS (Navy Marine) Association	T-MARC, Middle Atlantic Repeater Council
MADRAS	Vienna Wireless Society
Maryland Emergency Phone Net	Voice of America Amateur Radio Club
Maryland FM Association	Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Assn.
Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club	Washington Area Young Ladies ARC
Mercury Amateur Radio Assn., NE Area	Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

NEXT FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. **Visitors are always welcome!** The next meeting will be held on October 8th in Takoma Park, Maryland at Columbia Union College, HMS Richards Bldg., Flower Avenue (Take beltway exit 30, South on Colesville Road to Franklin Avenue, left on Franklin to Flower, right on Flower to Carroll Ave., left on Carroll to Greenwood Ave., left on Greenwood to 2nd building on left).

**Talk-in on
146.55**

Rules and Regs



By Jack Kelleher
W4ZC

ORACLE and CW

The lead article in the W5YI Report for September 1 ("ORACLE Begins WRC-99 Campaign to End Code Requirement") is reproduced below with permission from Fred Maia, W5YI.

[Editor's comment: Eliminating the treaty requirement from the International Radio Regulations (Article S25-5) does not require nor encourage member Administrations of the ITU to make consequent changes in their national radio regulations (see, for example, the discussion on Sovereignty with respect to national regulations). When, and if, the treaty requirement is deleted, it will be the prerogative of the FCC to determine future status of CW as an operating mode in the U.S., and the prequalifications if any which will be required, license-wise. The U.S. radio amateur community will undoubtedly have a voice in that determination.]

To preserve the clarity of the W5YI text we have preserved the quotes and subquotes as they appear in the W5YI text.

ORACLE, the New Zealand based "Organization Requesting Alternatives by Code-Less Examinations, Inc." has sent a formal letter to the telecommunications regulatory agencies of

64 different countries. In it they ask support in ending the Amateur Radio manual telegraphy requirement.

ORACLE was the group that persuaded their government in 1994 to support an end to the international Morse code requirement. ORACLE representatives used to be affiliated with New Zealand's national radio society, New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters, Inc. They left NZART to lobby New Zealand's telecommunications regulatory body, the Ministry of Communications. At WRC-95, held Oct/Nov 1995 in Geneva, the New Zealand government proposed (on October 31, 1995) to Working Group 4C to abolish RR2735 (which was renumbered to Article S25-5).

Actually, no amateur Radio issue was on the agenda for WRC-95. The proposal was introduced into the ITU conference through an on-going review "... to study 'Allocation and improved use of the Radio Frequency Spectrum and Simplification of the Radio Regulations'".

RR2735 (S25-5) is the international regulation that requires Amateur radio operators to prove that they are "... able to send correctly by hand and to receive correctly by ear, texts in Morse code signals" when the operation takes place below 30 MHz. The New Zealand MOC said that the following Radio Regulation 2736 (renumbered to Article S25-6) was all that is necessary for the ITU countries to require Morse code proficiency if they believed it important.

RR2736 simply reads "Administrations shall take such measures as they judgenecessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate the apparatus of an amateur station."

Some administrations (including the United Kingdom) supported the proposal — others (including Germany, Israel, Switzerland and Canada) wanted to study the matter further. It was

Continued next page

agreed to recommend item 2-2 for inclusion in the WRC-99 agenda. Agenda item 2-2 simply reads "Consideration of Article S25 concerning the Amateur Service and the Amateur-satellite Service".

The ORACLE letter dated 8/13/97, "...seeks the support of your administration on preparation for updating international radio regulations for the amateur service. Our New Zealand based organization formed in 1994 continues to develop international connections with amateur radio operators who seek regulatory changes."

The letter points out that "The WRC-95 Conference agreed to a provisional agenda for WRC-99, 'which includes 'consideration of Article S25 concerning the amateur and amateur-satellite services' (Resolution PLEN-5). Article S25 in the simplified regulations was formerly called Article 32. This review of Article 25 was triggered by the New Zealand Administration introducing a proposal at WRC-95 to remove S25.5 (formerly RR2735)".

ORACLE included a copy of the WRC-95 input paper entitled Corrigendum 1 to Document 29-E 27 October 1995 along with their letter. (Ed: though not identified, one presumes that this was the first 'correction' to the New Zealand proposals document to WRC-95, judging by its low number and the date). "Our organization supports the New Zealand position described in this WRC-95 paper, and we are advised that the New Zealand administration is continuing to seek removal of S25-5".

"In order to prepare a suitable path to the future for amateur radio, we recommend that your administration should, at the WRC-97 Conference, confirm that review of Article S32 be an agenda item for WRC-99". (Ed: Article 25?)

"Nearer to the time of the Conference that reviews Article 25, which will hopefully be WRC-99, our organization intends to provide administrations with a prepared package of detailed

recommendations for changes. It is also our intention to become an ITU recognized organization and to attend selected Conferences with observer status, especially WRC-99, which is likely to be where administrations make various decisions on amateur radio regulations".

"In summary, we make two points:

1.) Please support the agenda item for timely review of Article S25 at WRC-99, and 2.) Note that many operators in the amateur service seek timely changes to international regulations; especially regarding S25.5.

Attached is a summary of issues on Morse testing in the amateur service."

Restrictive Practice

The letter is signed by Dave Walker, ZL2BHE, ORACLE's Overseas Publicity Officer. Included with the letter was an August 1997 "Summary of Issues Concerning Morse Code Testing in the Amateur Service".

ORACLE suggested that "... proficiency in sending and receiving texts in Morse code has not been a genuine international testing requirement for many years, but instead a form of restrictive practice aimed at limiting participation on frequencies below 30 MHz. We understand that the international regulations are intended to act as guiding principles, thereby retaining flexibility in order to keep pace with telecommunication developments".

ORACLE said that "international regulation S25-6 is broad enough to encompass all forms of technical and operational qualification requirements. In 1997, we therefore question whether or not Morse code proficiency is a genuine international licensing requirement for an amateur operator to access any amateur band. We suggest the way ahead is to allow for individual administrations to introduce suitable alternative

Continued next page

ways of qualifying, such as a higher level technical examination”.

Discrimination

ORACLE believes that “. . . requiring candidates to demonstrate proficiency in a subject that is not a genuine requirement is a form of discrimination. The subject of individual human rights is dealt with in some detail by the United Nations with an internationally agreed document entitled International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights.

“This is available from the internet at <http://www.hrweb.org/legal/cpr.html>. The folly of current Morse testing regulations is easily illustrated by the policy used by some Administrations to grant waivers to persons with disabilities, which is in effect reverse discrimination. We suggest this practice if granting waivers to persons who could not undertake a test is proof enough that Morse code proficiency is not a genuine international qualification requirement” Sovereignty with respect to national regulations “removal of S25.5 has the outcome that individual Administrations will then have a choice of what each can specify in national regulations regarding amateur radio qualifications. National regulations are a suitable place for specifying such detail. We respect the sovereignty of administrations.

“Removal (suppression) of S25.5 begins the process of Administrations introducing (in national regulations) alternative ways of qualifying, thereby giving candidates a choice that best suits each of their particular circumstances. As it is clear that Morse code tests could therefore continue as one of the alternatives to choose from.

Scrutiny and contestability of policies

“There are some strongly held views for and against Morse code testing in the amateur service. We suggest that all amateur radio regulations should be publicly contestable (be debated far wider afield than by the incumbents alone), and that any parts considered to involve discrimination, restrictive practices or technology promotion be

consistent with overall economic, social and scientific policies of your Administration.

“The amateur radio qualification requirements need to be fit for the purpose of administering the amateur service as a part of a range of modern radio services. The self-training aspect of amateur radio is a low cost way of young persons being able to experiment with radio technologies and likely some will be attracted to seek careers in the radio and communication industries. Having successful radio and communications industries adds to national value, and the low cost introductory aspect that amateur radio can provide should not be underestimated.

“We believe the drop in the number of amateur radio licensees and candidates for amateur radio examinations in recent years in some countries are not good signs for the future of amateur radio. It is questionable to continue with restrictive international regulations in such a situation. This is where individual sovereignty should decide on appropriate solutions to problems with licensing under national jurisdictions, with guidance for compliance coming from the principles set by international regulation.

Overhaul of international regulations is overdue

“International regulations pertaining to the Amateur Service are in need of overhaul if the amateur service is to survive well into the future. We applaud the Administration of New Zealand for introducing the amateur radio Morse code issue to WRC-05, as this is one of the major topics of concern as it needlessly limits the public image of amateur radio.

“We are now aware of consequent developments and growing support by administrations to remove S25.5 from the international radio regulations. There are also several other international improvements that can be made that will help the future of amateur radio. “In fast moving times, amateur radio needs similar attention as occurs for other radio services in being

Continued next page

able to keep up to date. Our organization was formed to provide independent commentary in order to show that amateur radio can do better than continuing to keep falling behind the times.

"We are uncomfortable with an image of amateur radio being the dinosaur of radio services. We are hopeful that amateur radio can have a long future, but for this to be possible we believe that there needs to be timely updating of the international radio regulations at WRC-99".

FCC REVISES RF SAFETY "THRESHOLD" LEVELS

(From ARRL Letter, Vol. 16, #34, 8/28/97)

The FCC has revised the power level thresholds to trigger a routine Amateur Radio station RF exposure evaluation, and the changes will be welcome news for most hams. When the FCC first decreed a year ago that ham radio stations would have to comply with RF exposure guidelines, it set a 50-W threshold level. The updated guidelines, announced August 25, increase that threshold level on all HF bands except 10 meters, where it remains at 50 W. The FCC made no changes in the RF exposure limits it announced last year.

The new RF safety guidelines are scheduled to become effective January 1, 1998, for Amateur Radio stations.

The FCC went along in part with a request by the ARRL to establish a sliding scale for threshold levels, depending upon frequency. The revised thresholds are 500 W for 160 through 40 meters, 425 W on 30 meters (where the maximum legal power is 200 W), 225 W on 20 meters, 125 W on 17 meters, 100 W on 15 meters, 75 W on 12 meters and 50 W on 10 meters. The threshold for all VHF bands is 50 W. On UHF, the threshold level is 70 W on 70 cm, 150 W on 33 cm, 200 W on 23 cm, and 250 W on 13 cm and above. Stations operating at or below these respective power levels are categorically excluded from having to perform a routine RF radiation evaluation. However, all stations, regardless of power level, still must comply with the RF exposure limits.

Along with its August 25 Second Memorandum Opinion and Order announcing the changes, the FCC released the "core" text of its long-awaited Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) Bulletin 65, Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields. The bulletin contains generic equations that can be used to analyze fields due to almost all antennas, although the FCC warns that "the resulting estimates for power density may be overly conservative in some cases." Hams leery of formulas might opt to wait for the easier-to-use Supplement B to OET Bulletin 65, which will include information designed specifically for evaluating Amateur Radio installations. The supplement promises to detail how hams can determine more simply if their individual stations comply with the new regulations.

The FCC says the supplement will contain "information on projected minimum exclusion distances from typical amateur antenna installations."

The FCC said it would issue Supplement B "as soon as a review of the current draft is complete." When it's ready, Supplement B will be available to download from the FCC's Web site, <http://www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety>. The FCC directed inquiries as to the availability of the supplement and other RF-related questions to its RF Safety Program, 202-418-2464; e-mail rfsafety@fcc.gov. Last year, the FCC established time-averaged maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits for RF fields in two tiers—for controlled environments (ie, a ham's immediate household, including visitors) and uncontrolled environments (ie, neighbors, the general public). If a routine evaluation of a ham station indicates that human exposure to RF fields could be in excess of the FCC's MPE limits, the licensee must act to correct the problem and ensure compliance. This could include changing operating patterns, relocating antennas, restricting access, changing frequency, output power or emission type or any combination of these and other remedies.

The FCC says that ham radio facilities “represent a special case for determining exposure, since there are many possible antenna types that could be designed and used for amateur stations.” The revised regulations categorically exclude most mobile installations, including those in the Amateur Radio Service, from having to comply with the RF-exposure or station evaluation guidelines. Since the FCC issued its guidelines, additional questions on RF safety have been added to the Amateur Radio examination question pool.

OET Bulletin 65 and the FCC Second Memorandum Opinion and Order are available at <http://www.fcc.gov/oet/dockets/et93-62/>. More details on the FCC’s latest announcement on RF safety will appear in the October issue of QST (16/34) Special event call sign ID reminder: When taking advantage of the newly available 1x1 special event call sign program, operators are reminded that a station using a 1x1 call sign must announce its regularly assigned call sign at least once an hour.

CW RETURNS TO MARS NETS

(Tnx ARRL Ltr vol 16, #32)

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Carter, who’s not a ham but is interested in becoming licensed, confirmed that some MARS members quit when CW was prohibited. She said that when she took over as Navy-Marine MARS chief, the return of CW was among the first things she heard about. “All they were asking was for a small bit that most of them learned while serving [in the military],” she said.

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(From ARRL Ltr Vol, #16/32)

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Tech Q&A is \$12.95. Order Item #6222. Call toll-free 888-277-5289 to order.

CB MIXUP GETS HAMS STUNG BY NEW MILWAUKEE ANTENNA ORDINANCE

(Tnx ARN #1043. 8-8-97)

Milwaukee, Wisconsin hams are on their way to having to live with a new and highly restrictive antenna ordinance because the city council cannot tell the difference between CBers and hams. This according to Scott Frakes, KB9PRG who tells Newsline that on July 25th, the City of Milwaukee Common Council passed the restrictive measure aimed in part at taking 11 meter Class D CB operators off the air and sent it on to the Mayor for signing. The new law will require a Special Use Permit, and a hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals for a tower to be erected. The law will cover any tower and antenna that is over the maximum height limit of 40 feet. The ordinance also increases setback requirements, that would in many cases preclude even getting a Special Use

permit. It also has provisions that the proposed tower must not be a deterrent to the area. There are other provisions, many aimed at commercial towers.

But here is the CB related kicker. As said, the new law was not only aimed at limiting the number of commercial towers in the city. The council also wants to put an end to CB interference to consumer electronic equipment. In years past, amateur radio towers were specifically exempted in Milwaukee.

However, the committee that this ordinance came out of was also talking about interference problems with CB radio operators, and made reference to the fact that this might get rid of CBers as well. So they took out the exemption for amateur radio, thinking that this was for CB radio. What hams in Milwaukee will be able to do to educate their legislators at this late date remains to be seen. Its also not known if existing towers and antennas will be grand fathered under this new Milwaukee tower law.

Dear Friends of FAR,

This fall, ARRL members in the Atlantic Division will have the opportunity to vote for Director for the 1998-99 term. I am running for re-election and would appreciate your support. ARRL's 15 elected Directors create League policy, so it really DOES matter who represents us in the Board room.

With 11 years of experience as an elected ARRL official, I have the background that an effective Director needs. I had the good fortune to be Hugh W3ABC's Vice Director for 6 years, and you can't get a better mentor than that!

I pledge to continue serving you with moderation, dedication, and respect for the whole Amateur family. Thank you for your confidence in the past. Let's meet the future's challenges together!

73 - Kay Craigie WT3P



American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford,
W4HU

The Purpose of the ARRL Letter is to provide the essential news of interest to active, organizationally minded radio amateurs faster than it can be disseminated by our official Journal QST. We strive to be fast, accurate and readable in our reporting. Material from the ARRL Letter may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, including photo reproduction and electronic data banks, provided that credit is given to The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

SAREX TEAM WINS NASA AWARD

The Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment, or SAREX, program has won a NASA Group Achievement Award based on SAREX activities during the recent STS-94 shuttle Columbia mission.

SAREX Principal Investigator Matt Bordelon, KC5BTL, received the award on behalf of the SAREX Working Group and others who supported the SAREX payload during the mission. These include AMSAT school mentors, ham volunteers who staffed the Johnson Space Center Customer Support Room during the mission (Will Marchant, KC6ROL, and Charles Sufana, AJ9N), the ARRL Educational Activities Department staff and other HQ staff members (Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY, and Rick Lindquist, N1RL), and ham volunteers from Johnson Space Center and the Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club.

JSC Director George Abbey presented the award during the STS-94 mission debriefing session at Johnson Space Center on August 12. Individual members of the SAREX team and those who helped support the SAREX mission will receive certificates for their role in the flight activity.

Three hams were among the members of the Columbia crew for STS-94: Jim Halsell, KC5RNI, the mission commander, Janice Voss, KC5BTK; and Donald Thomas, KC5FVF.

The crew nominated the SAREX team for the award in recognition of "all the planning, preparation, and execution required to perform these missions" and "to thank the people who made it happen," Bordelon said.

The citation reads: "For your outstanding support during STS-94 that allowed us to contact 17 schools around the world and make multiple contacts with Mike Foale aboard the Space Station Mir."

All 17 scheduled SAREX school contacts were successful, including the first-ever SAREX contact with students in the People's Republic of China. The hams aboard Columbia also managed contacts with US astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, aboard the Russian Mir space station, as well as several random contacts with earthbound hams.

STS-94, the 24th SAREX mission, flew from July 1 until July 17. It was a "refly" of the aborted STS-83 mission in April.

KB5UAC EXPECTS NEW CREWMATES TO BE ACTIVE ON HAM RADIO

US astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, continues to be sporadically active on Amateur Radio from the Russian Mir space station. Foale has been using 145.985 MHz while over the US, and the 145.200/800 MHz split pair elsewhere.

Continued next page

In a recent packet bulletin, Foale also said he expects his new Mir 24 crewmates, Anatole Solovev and Pavel "pasha" Vinogradov, to be active on the radio "once they are settled in."

The new crew members arrived August 7 aboard the ailing Mir to replace the Mir 23 contingent of Vasily Tsibliev and Alexander Lazutkin, who returned to Earth August 14. Foale will remain aboard Mir until September. "We are conducting handover activities now," Foale related in his message. He said the team will prepare for a so-called "internal space walk" on August 20 to relocated power cables from the damaged Spektr module to Mir's Core module.

A decision on whether Foale would get a chance to participate in a later space walk in September was pending this week. The Mir crew has been attempting to clear up vexing problems with onboard oxygen-generation system. "Lots to do here," Foale said in his hurried posting. "I try to monitor each day." Foale has been experiencing problems with his TNC, which has been losing messages. A new TNC was to have been delivered along with the Mir crew members, but that did not happen.

NASA, meanwhile, reports that Foale's scheduled replacement, astronaut Dave Wolf, KC5VPF, is undergoing intensive training in Russia in preparation for swapping places with Foale in late September.

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MILWAUKEE ORDINANCE RESTRICTS TOWERS

A new ordinance going into effect later this

Continued next page

year in the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, will require a special use permit to construct any antenna towers in the city that exceed the zoning district height limit—typically 40 feet. Towers more than double the zoning district height would require a zoning variance.

Those familiar with the situation say the new uniform tower law apparently was a reaction to a recent spurt of applications for cellular telephone towers in the city. The city's current tower ordinance exempts towers of licensed amateurs.

Obtaining a special use permit or a zoning variance to erect a tower of more than 40 feet also means the applicant must pay a \$300 fee. Applications are subject to public hearings. A special use permit or variance also must comply with other requirements, including setback criteria for freestanding towers.

Towers mounted on buildings would be permitted only if they are less than 20 feet in height or 25% of the height of the building or structure, whichever is less.

The new ordinance exempts existing towers in Milwaukee as "legally nonconforming." Mayor John Norquist signed the ordinance on August 5. It becomes effective November 1.

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SURVEYS SHOW TECHNICIAN LICENSE MOST POPULAR

A survey of ARRL Volunteer Instructors shows that most teach between one and two classes a year and the vast majority of students obtain their Technician tickets. The survey revealed that classes average eight students. Graduates are 5% Novice, 88% Technician, 5% General, 1% Advanced, and 1% Extra. Approximately 11% of the more than 2000 Volunteer Instructors responded to the survey. Of that group, 90% reported they use *Now You're Talking* in their classes. The instructors said that 80% of their students join the ARRL.

In another survey, ARRL-Registered School Teachers reported that their students favorite ham radio activities, by far, were HF DXing, taking part in licensing classes, radio club activities and VHF/UHF operating. The 108 teachers who returned their surveys (approximately 11% of the total) say they introduced nearly 8800 students to ham radio.

The teachers said that about 60% of their licensing classes prepared youngsters for the Technician license and 40% for the Novice ticket. Most teachers said they use ARRL study materials.

Volunteer Instructors and ARRL-Registered School Teachers were polled last spring. The ARRL Educational Activities Department recently compiled the results of the two surveys.—Rosalie White, WA1STO.

IN BRIEF:

*Mir Achievement Award available: Those who have worked the Russian Mir space station on both voice and packet are eligible to receive a

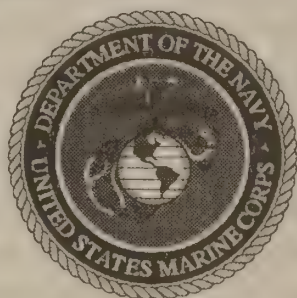
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Mir Achievement Award, an 8x10-inch certificate suitable for framing. A \$10 donation includes all shipping and handling cost. Send a QSL or postcard with your name, address, and call sign to Mir QSL manager Dave Larsen, N6CO, Box 1501, Pine Grove, CA 95665; e-mail doc@volcano.net. Larsen reminds hams not to call Mir on voice until they hear Mir calling CQ.

*Ham radio aids in biker's rescue: Mountain biker Tom Thompson is grateful for ham radio, which played a vital role August 3 in getting him prompt medical attention after he was injured during a ride in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Gorge. Ham and paramedic Joe Cummings, N3SQR, of Warrington, Pennsylvania, was biking with his daughter in the area when they came upon Tom, seriously injured with broken bones and facial injuries. Joe used his H-T and the Carbon Amateur Radio Club repeater to reach Ann Keiser, KO3M, who called 911 and got help on the way. Tom was especially fortunate that a ham found him, since the area where he was injured is outside the normal range for cellular telephones.

*Jamboree generates new hams: The recently ended National Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A. P. Hill in Virginia yielded 37 new or upgraded licensees. The breakdown included two Novices, 28 Technicians and seven Tech Plus licensees. K2BSA/4 operated from the Jamboree on most bands.

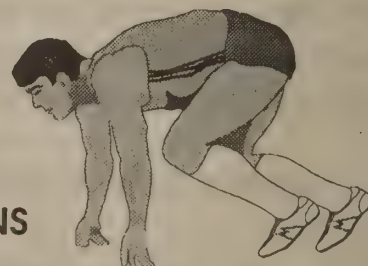
*KC5VCF wins army medal: The US Army has awarded Alfred Fronefield, KC5VCF, the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for his volunteer service in 1995 and 1996. Among other things, Fronefield was cited for having logged more than 100 volunteer service hours at the San Antonio chapter of the American Red Cross, for using ham radio to help coordinate a search for a missing woman, and for alerting authorities and helping to manage traffic following a multiple car accident. The citation said that Fronefield "characterizes the selfless attributes of a fine humanitarian and professional soldier." Fronefield, who's stationed with the Army in San Antonio, is active with Bexar County (Texas) REACT Team 4950. He's scheduled to ship out to Germany for a three-year tour.—Lee Besing, N5NTG



NEEDED:

A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN

**TO PROVIDE SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS
VIA HAM RADIO FOR**



The Marine Corps Marathon

+/- 0630-1530 On Sunday, October 26th

TO SIGN UP, CALL THE ARES MAILBOX @ (703) 359-3414.

**We plan to keep assignments the same as last year,
so if you'd like something different, let us know.**

Please leave your e-mail address along with your phone number. Thank you.

FAR Meeting Minutes

August 13, 1997
Takoma Park, MD



FAR President, Chuck Sommer (N4OSD), called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. at Columbia College in Takoma Park, MD. The attendees introduced themselves. There were 21 in attendance and included:

Al Brown	WA3FYZ
Antietam RA & MEPN	
Ed Mumford	N3IRO
Frederick ARC	
Mildred Mumford	N3KGQ
Frederick ARC	
Chuck Sommer	N4OSD
PG Co RACES/ARES	
Hugh Katz	KB3TB
Voice of America ARC	
Charles Johnson	N3HFO
Anne Arundel RC & NVFMA	
Hugh Turnbull	W3ABC
FAR Scholarship Committee	
Mary Morris	N4TCI
Mt Vernon ARC	
John Klim	N3KHK
NOAA ARC	
Ernie Farkas	K3CBW
Historical Electronics Museum ARC	
Dan Blasberg	KA8YPY
Laurel ARC	
W. Page Pyne	WA3EOP
Antietam RA & Opequeon RS	
Bill Dobson	N3WD
Baltimore ARC & Moose ARC	
Lenny Schachter	N3RPQ
Natl Cap ARES Cncl & MADRAS	
Michael Holland	N3YGU
Federal City REACT ARC & MADRAS	
Jim Headrick	W3CP
Naval Research Lab ARC & PVRC	
Tony Young	WA3YLO
Anne Arundel Radio Club	
Bill Kamm	KC4VXH

Vienna Wireless Society
Hugh O'Donnell W3FUO
Goddard Amateur Radio Club
Jerry Gavin NU3D
Maryland Mobileers ARC
John Queen KA0SEY
Auto-Call Editor

The July minutes were approved as mailed. The treasurer's report was given by Charles Johnson (N3HFO) and accepted.

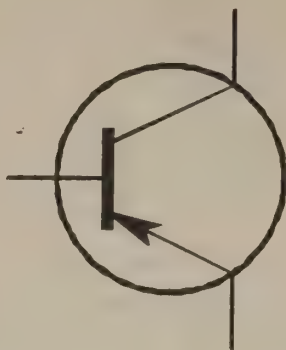
Auto Call - Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported that the names of those who purchased subscriptions to auto-call in the memory of Ethel Smith will be published in next issue of Auto-Call. There were approximately 30 who participated.

Survivor's Assistance - Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported very little activity. He still holds about \$500 worth of equipment from Ethel Smith's estate.

Scholarship Committee - Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC) reported that the scholarship administered for the Augusta (ME) Amateur Radio Club was being discontinued. He also reported that the Ten-Ten International Net, Inc. has advised that effective next year they will be increasing the number of their \$1,000 scholarships from three (3) to four (4). The Board of the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) has requested that the Foundation administer \$1,000 award on their behalf starting next year. The scholarship committee will work with them to develop a mutually agreeable criteria for the scholarship. And, the Maryland Mobileers have advised, verbally, that they have established a \$1,000 scholarship for the Foundation to administer beginning in 1998. The Scholarship Committee will also be working with them to develop the necessary criteria. This brings the anticipated total number of scholarships that FAR expects to administer in 1998 to 63.

ARRL Report — Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC), ARRL Vice President, reported that discussions

Continued on page 49



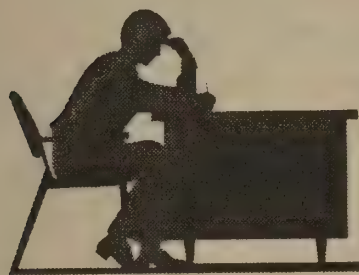
Amateur Radio Training

John Forrest WZ4A
6111 Burnett St., Alexandria, VA 22310
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the *Auto Call* publication date (e.g., 25 December for the February issue).

Club Training Contacts

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703) 644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Mike Callahan NW3V	(703) 241-5618
Antietam Radio Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301) 824-5132
BRATS (Baltimore)	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410) 602-0353
Baltimore ARC	Essex Community College	(410) 780-6854
Dulles ARG	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703) 450-2304
Fauquier ARC	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(540) 364-3861
Frederick ARC	Hal Silverman W3HWC	(301) 831-7946
Historical Electronics ARC	Rol Anders K3RA	(410) 969-0410
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver W3YD	(301) 498-6293
Mid-Atlantic DX Assn.	Michael Vaia, WB8VBW	(301) 738-3861
Madras	Larry Ziecheck, N3GKZ	(301) 984-6113
MD Mobileers ARC	Bruce Colburn AA3KR	(410) 437-1891
Montgomery ARC	Rocky Jones KC4UXO	(301) 216-5210
Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301) 249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	Charles Dale WA4YGI	(703) 361-3091
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(540) 659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	Peter Butt WA3UMY	(301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Godfrey Miller N8GM	(540) 877-2607
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301) 888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(410) 586-2177
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(540) 659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Forrest Snyder N4UTY	(703) 430-4149
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(301) 572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Kerry Kingham, WA4BQM	(703) 691-2719
Woodbridge Wireless	Jim Duffey WD4AIR	(703) 491-3170



Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

JOHN FORREST WZ4A
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA, 22310
(703) 971-3905

ATTENTION VE's: It's time to plan your 1998 test dates. 1998 dates will appear in Autocall soon. Also, copies of the 1998 AutoCall exam schedule will be distributed to local ham radio stores around the middle of December. Please send your 1998 information to WZ4A as soon as possible."

* Effective July 1, 1997, the Novice and Technician written exam question pools (Elements 2 and 3a) will change. Five questions on RF safety will be added to each exam. All books and study materials not based on these new question pools will be obsolete after that date. Be sure to use study materials appropriate for the current question pool.

* Effective January 1, 1997, the maximum FCC authorized exam fee is \$6.26.

* Copies of the complete (as of date) 1997 VEC Exam schedule from the *Auto Call* database are available. To obtain a copy, please send a large, self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage to cover 10 letter-size pages along with \$2.00 to cover copying costs to WZ4A at the above address.

1997 Schedule of Examinations

October 5 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day
October 11 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Cumberland, MD - (Mountain ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576 Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

October 16 (Thursday)	Towson, MD - Baltimore ARC (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-Ins Accepted Contact: Ed Kriston N3WJA (410)HAM-TALK, Mailbox 3952
October 18 (Saturday)	Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
October 26 (Sunday)	Hagerstown, MD - Antietam Radio Assn. (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Recommended Contact: Bob Long KD3JK (301)824-5132 before 9 PM
October 28 (Tuesday)	Annapolis, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-Ins Space Available Contact: Lois Turner KA3VVQ (410)647-4178
November 2 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day
	Elkins, WV - (Mountain ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Walter Corley KF8SX (304)637-0506
November 8 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In, Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
November 15 (Saturday)	Sterling, VA - Dulles Amateur Radio Group (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Mike Weber WB8RDN (703)450-2304

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

November 15 (Saturday)	Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
	Manchester, MD - Hanover Area Hamming Assn (ARRL VEC) Walk-In accepted, Pre-Registration Encouraged Contact: Ed Daves (410)239-8488
November 22 (Saturday)	Fredericksburg, VA - Fredericksburg VE Team (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Carolyn Cavanagh AC4SK (540)373-7076
November 25 (Tuesday)	Glen Burnie, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-Ins Space Available Contact: Jerry Gavin NU3D (410)761-1423
December 7 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day December 13, 1997 (Saturday)
December 13 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Cumberland, MD - (Mountain ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576, Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
January 4 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

**January
10
(Saturday)**

Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510

Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In
Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

TRAINING CLASSES

ELMER COURSE: The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will present an Elmer Course to help new hams become more proficient in the hobby by transitioning from license exam study to station building and actual amateur operation. If you have questions, problems, or are feeling left out of the amateur radio community, perhaps we can help. The course will meet from 10:30AM to 1:30PM on the fourth Saturday of each month from August thru December at the Mt. Vernon Government Center on Parkers Lane in the Mt. Vernon area of Alexandria, VA. For information contact: Frank Lempicki, AA4ZS at (703)971-9304 or Chuck Haser, W3HSW at (703)660-6623.

ELMER COURSE: The Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club (HEMARC) is offering a Hands-On/Elmering Course for licensed amateurs. The course offers hands on experience in building and operating ham gear. Students will build and operate a one tube QRP transmitter. The class is limited to 10 students. The class will meet every Tuesday night for 12 weeks from 6:30 to 9:30PM starting 7 October at the museum in Linthicum, MD. For information contact: Heru Wamsley, W3WVV at (410)766-3545 or Ray Robley, KD3KK at (410)859-0178.

NOVICE/TECHNICIAN COURSE: The Montgomery Amateur Radio Club will present an entry level amateur radio course to prepare students for the Novice and/or Technician class license exams. Morse code instruction will be offered. The course will meet at Gaithersburg High School on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7 'til 9 pm. Classes will begin on September 30 and end on October 30 with exams given at the last class. There will be no charge for the classes or for the exams. However, students will be required to provide their own study guides. For information, please call Rocky Jones KC4UXO at 301-216-5210 or Peggy Kelly N3PPG at 301-330-0027.

NOVICE/TECHNICIAN COURSE: The Central Maryland ARC (CMARC) will offer a free Novice/Technician class beginning on Friday September 12, 1997 and continuing thru December (with the exception of CMARC club nights). CW practice will start at 7 PM followed by theory presentations at 7:30. Students must purchase study materials costing about \$19. Classes and club meetings are held at Doctors' Community Hospital, 8118 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD. Enter via the Outpatient Testing entrance across from the Emergency Room entrance behind the main building. Take the elevator to the 5th floor and exit left to the meeting room (DSE Room) on the right. Contact for information: James Tilton KD3JA at (301)552-0012.



Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

EXAM FEES:

- * Check for appropriate exam fee. Fees and modes of payment for individual VECs and exam teams may vary.
- * ARRL VEC exams cost \$6.25
- * Laurel VEC exams are free
- * Mountain VEC exams are free
- * W5YI VEC exams cost \$6.25

BRING TO EXAM:

- * Picture identification
- * Completed FCC form 610 (most VE teams will supply at exam)
- * Original and a copy of current FCC amateur radio license
- * Originals and copies of all active certificates of successful completion of prior exams
- * Exam fee (check or cash depending on VE team)

"GRANDFATHER" CREDIT FOR ELEMENT 3B (GENERAL WRITTEN):

- * If you presently hold a Technician class license which was first issued prior to March 21, 1987, you may be grandfathered for Element 3B (General class written exam) by presenting the original and a copy of the license dated prior to March 21, 1987 to the VE team. It is your responsibility to prove that you are entitled to grandfathering. Do not lose your original license!

RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE FAR VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE:

1. All submissions must be in writing
2. Date and day of week must be specified for each exam date
3. Point of contact and phone number must be specified
4. Sponsor and location must be specified
5. VEC must be specified
6. Exam dates up to 12 months in advance will be accepted
7. Deadline for submission is 25th of the 2nd month prior to publication date (e.g., January 25 for March issue)



Alexandria Radio Club

Meetings: Second Friday of each month, 7:30 PM at the Alexandria Fire Department Administrative Office (co-located with Fire Station #54), 900 Second St., Alexandria, VA
Nets: Every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. on 147.315 output / 147.915 input. (W4HFH repeater)

Web page: <http://members.aol.com/n4cwp/w4hfh.html> (or search on Yahoo: W4HFH)

Information: Rich -KA4GFY, 703-644-3920.

If you have ever wondered what working one of the amateur satellites is like, you missed your chance at our July meeting. Satellite operating is easier than you think, and if you have a dual band transceiver like many of us do, you have the equipment. Also, there are some modes that utilize HF frequencies in the 10 and 15-meter bands.

Mark Kanawati, N4TPY, from AMSAT was our guest speaker. Not only does he operate the satellites, but has also built them. At least one of the microsats now in use was built in his garage. Mark's background with satellite communications goes beyond the amateur radio world, he does this professionally with his own company. We also have an invitation to see his lab. We would like to thank Mark for doing a **great** program with a moment's notice, and a big thanks to Martha at AMSAT for going beyond the extra mile for lining up the program.

Transmitter (fox) hunting season in Alexandria is in full swing. At the August hunt, Rich, KA4GFY, hid in Old Town Alexandria near the waterfront. After nearly two and half hours of tormenting the hunters, he was found at Jones Point Park by Harry, N4CWP. If you are interested in participating, join us on the 147.315 repeater at noon on the second Saturday of each month. The hunt gets under way at 1 PM on a simplex frequency. You don't have to wear a red coat and

ride a horse. The only rule is the "fox" is hidden somewhere in Alexandria.

Amateur television is the program for October. If you have not seen ATV before, this will be your chance. The picture quality is every bit as good as broadcast TV. Best part is there are no annoying commercials. It's an interesting mode, and Metrovision is quite active. In fact, a recent issue of Autocall celebrated 25 years of Metrovision. Happy birthday!

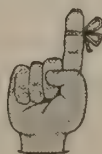
Rick, N4ASX is working with AMRAD for the December program. We are not sure what the topic will be, but they always have something new and different. If you want to find out what the latest technology is, forget that boring Christmas party at the boss's house. Don't miss this one!

Alexandria ARES participated in the Simulated Emergency Test in August. W4HFH passed traffic to and from Norfolk, and worked 2 meters as part of the drill. From our location, we were able to work most any station in the drill on 2 meters. Antenna height does make a difference.

As always, the meetings have our now-famous technical briefings, code practice, and the best in programs. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 PM at fire station 54 at Second St and Powatan St (Northern Alex). We have our Thursday night net at 8 PM on 147.315 and 444.600. Also, we have been practicing code on 10 meters on an informal basis, and would like to make an HF net a more permanent feature.

Check us out.

73, Rich, KA4GFY



Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO CALL

are due no later than
the 1st of the month prior to the
month of publication!!



Amateur Radio Research and Development Corporation

Mailing Address: PO Drawer 6148, McLean,
VA 22106.

Web Site: <http://www.amrad.org/>

Email: Randy Mays, WA6VFC, randy
@pobox.com.

Repeater: 147.81/147.21 MHz Tysons
Corner Satellite: AO-27 145.85/436.8 MHz

October 9 Meeting

The regular monthly AMRAD meeting on October 9 will be dedicated to presentations on low frequency operation. While not an amateur band, FCC Rules allow experimenters to use the 160-190 KHz band at 1 W transmitter power and antenna limitations. The American Radio Relay League has advised the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of an amateur requirement for an allocation in this band, which subsequently received NTIA endorsement. Amateurs in the United Kingdom can be licensed to use frequencies in the 72-84 KHz range, usually referred to as 73 KHz.

N4ICK keeps in touch with the growing group of UK amateurs involved in experimentations in that band, and more particularly with John Gould

G3WKL, who organized the first 73 KHz group on the Internet.

A particular interesting aspect of LF experimentation is that this is one radio band where some substantial improvements could possibly be achieved by the application of traditional Ham ingenuity.

The October AMRAD meeting will explore the allocation possibilities for the United States and internationally, transmitter design concepts, efficiency of transmitting antennas at these frequencies, receiving antenna design, and the use of digital signal processing (DSP) techniques in receivers.

Specifically, Andre N4ICK and Terry WB4JFI will explain AMRAD's approach to bench-top experimentation on 73 KHz. N4ICK will demonstrate his 73 KHz FSK exciter, the output of which, mixed with an adjustable amount of noise, will be fed into WB4JFI's DSP board. This setup will allow for objective measurement of the improvements available with various modulation schemes besides the traditional on-off keying of a carrier. The results of these experiments will be useful in the future, whatever LF band AMRAD is eventually authorized to operate in.

As usual, we will meet at the Dolley Madison Branch Library in McLean, VA starting at 7:30 PM. Please come and bring friends interested in LF.

Digital Communications Conference

As you read this, preparations will be made for the ARRL and TAPR 1997 Digital Communications Conference being held at the BWI Holiday Inn the weekend of October 10-12. Details are in the September issue of Auto Call and on the Web at <http://www.tapr.org/dcc/>.

Please check out the AMRAD Web site, <http://www.amrad.org/>, which includes a membership application.

73, Paul, W4RI

Maryland Radio Center

3394 Fort Meade Road
Laurel, Md. 20724
(301) 725-1212

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Anne Arundel Radio Club

Meetings: 8 PM 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge & Wayson Roads off MD Rt. 214 near Annapolis.

On the air: 2030 Thursdays when there is no club meeting on 147.705/105. Tuesdays at 2030 local time on 28.410. Wednesdays at 2000 on 444.400. The Chesapeake Weather & Traffic Net on 147.705/105 at 1100 and 1500 every weekend day and public holiday from April 1 to November 15. MSN (Maryland Slow Net) every evening at 1930 on 3.7170 MHz.

Address: P.O. Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035.

Information: Margaret (Holly) Bevan, 410-923-0229.

A group of AARC members enjoyed a very interesting and informative tour of the Naval Academy's Antenna Farm on the evening of August 11th. In spite of the short notice, there was a good turnout for the event. There is a possibility there will be a second tour in the future due to the intense interest in the area and the disappointment of those who did not hear about the tour in time to attend.

A number of club volunteers turned out early on Sunday August 24th to provide communications for the Annapolis Striders' annual 10-mile run. The race had more problems with runners this year than usual and the hams proved their worth during the emergencies.

It is with sadness that we report the loss of two members recently to the ranks of silent keys. Wallace (Wally) Bailey/N3IYC of Beltsville died unexpectedly July 17th from a heart attack. Harold R. (Bob) Dove/KA3OCZ of Bowie died July 30th as a result of a brain tumor, following a long period of health problems.

At the clubhouse on August 9th, Oscar Ramsey/NV3G, Charles Tiemeyer/W3RMD and Robert Kammer/N3POX gave 18 tests to 9 persons. Eleven tests were passed with 6 upgrades. Other members of the team included Harlan Ray III/AA3FE, Herb Elkin/NA1VY, Bettye Tiemeyer/K3VRZ and Holly Bevan/N3MB. The next testing session at the clubhouse will be on October 11th.

73, Holly/N3MB



Antietam Radio Association

Meetings: First and Third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Washington County Regional Airport, Showalter Road, Hagerstown, Maryland.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 52, Hagerstown, MD. 21741

Nets: Tuesday 7 p.m. 146.940 MHz.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 447.975 MHz.; Thursday 7 p.m. 147.090 MHz.

Repeaters: 147.09+ and 146.94 -.

Information: Donnie Sue Mulligan/KB3AOO (301) 582-2984

Field Day was a pleasant weekend. The temp stayed about 75-80 Degrees, the beautiful skies stayed blue, and the sun and the moon came up and down as usual. The operators made more than 1100 points.

We had Channel 25 WHAG interview Tim Keener/N3VGS (the President of ARA). The reporter got some pictures of the guys putting up antennas. I taped it and showed it at our next meeting. We had enough food for an army, THANKS to Jim Dula/N3PMP (the coordinator for Field Day). Jim, Don Jones/KB8WHW and Don's XYL Tina/KB8ZQM shopped for the goodies and made salads, sandwiches, baked beans... I want to say to Jim, "You're a good waiter with YOUR potato salad, but you shouldn't have

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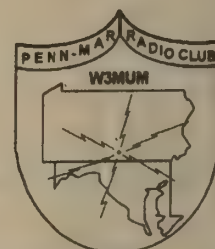
OWORMSER@C3IUSA.COM, SRUFFIN@C3IUSA.COM, TPRICE@C3IUSA.COM

Mason-Dixon

Computer & Hamfest

Sunday - October 26, 1997

Carroll County Ag Center
Westminster, MD



Admission

- General/Tailgaters/Vendors - \$5.00
(children under 18 free)
- Tailgate Space - \$5 per 12' space
- 6:00 AM Vendor and tailgating setup
- 8:00 AM General Admission

Inside 8' Tables

- \$10 if *prepaid* by 9/1/97
- \$15 if *prepaid* by 10/1/97
- \$20 on day of Hamfest
- MD State law requires Vendors to collect Sales Tax

Advance Table Registration (Reserved Tables MUST be PREPAID)

- Mail to:
Mason-Dixon Computer & Hamfest
P.O. Box 763
Hanover, PA 17331
- Or contact:
George Johns, N3JKY
Phone: (717) 633-6641
Email: gjohns@sun-link.com

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VE Exams - Preregistration Requested

- Mail to:
Bill Wolfgang, NZ3J
9 Kensington Drive
Littlestown, PA 17340
- or call:
Bill Wolfgang, NZ3J - (717) 359-7090
Pat Stump, WW3U - (717) 632-4237

On-Site Registration

At the Carroll County Fire Training Center
1345 Washington Rd.
Westminster, MD
(across from Kate Wagner Road)

- Begins promptly at 8:00 AM
- No admittance after 9:00 AM

Required for VE Exam

- Original FCC license plus one copy
- Two forms of ID (one w/ photo)
- Any CSCE's
- Exam fee, \$6.25 cash only

Talk-in: CCARC Repeater 145.410 MHz.

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Presents its 21st Annual

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Howard County Fairgrounds

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Amateur Exams will be given at no charge

40,000 Sq. Ft. of Indoor Display Area

Large Outdoor Tailgating Area

Covered Areas for Inclement Weather

Great food and Refreshments On Site

Many Dealers - Computers & Ham Radio

Proceeds will benefit CARA Scholarship, Amateur Classes and Repeater System
(Including Open Autopatch)

Talk In: 146.52 Simplex, 147.135/735 Repeater, 222.32/92 Repeater

Howard County Fairgrounds
Directions

To Frederick

Interstate 70

To I-695

(11 miles)

Fairground

Parking

Route 144

To Rt 97

1 mile

Route 32

N

Admission Donation: \$5.00 per person
Unlicensed Spouse and Children free!

Tailgating Donation: \$10.00 per space
(Includes one General Admission per space)
Tailgating spaces will be available on a first come first serve basis the day of the Hamfest

Table Donation: 1-4 \$20.00 ea.
5 or more \$18.00.
(Includes one General Admission per table)

Call (410) 531-2933 for Table reservations.
To guarantee your space send your check now!

For Hamfest information write or call:

CARA Hamfest Committee P.O. Box 911 Columbia, MD 21044

** After Sept. 20th, please phone prior to mailing **

NOTE
EARLY
DATE

ARRL and TAPR

16th Annual

Digital Communications Conference

DCC-97 will be held October 10-12, 1997,
at the Holiday Inn BWI Airport, Linthicum, MD.

The local host is the
Amateur Radio Research and Development Corporation
(AMRAD).

This is a conference for all, beginners to digital experts.
Topics include: Amateur Position Reporting System (APRS),
satellites, packet radio, spread spectrum and more.

Friday will include an all-day symposium covering APRS.
Late Friday afternoon there will be a half-day seminar entitled
"RF Basics for Computer Weenies."
A seminar on "Spread Spectrum System Design and Theory"
will be conducted on Sunday morning.

A block of rooms has been reserved and can be booked if
made before September 9th. Telephone (410) 859-8400 or fax
(410) 684-6778—ask for the Digital Conference rate of \$89/night.

Preregistration before September 10 is \$42, afterwards \$47.
Registration includes one copy of the conference proceedings, all
sessions, meetings and lunch on Saturday. Saturday dinner \$20.
Seminars/symposiums—Friday: APRS 1-8 PM \$25, RF Basics for
Computer Weenies 3-7 PM \$20.
Sunday: Spread Spectrum 8:30-1:30 \$20.

To register or for information contact TAPR at tel (817) 383-0000,
fax (817) 566-2544 or <http://www.tapr.org/dcc/>.

given me so much!"

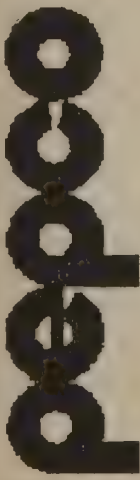
On July 20, some of the ARA members communicated for the HAWK Triathlon. They met at 7:00 AM at the Park and Ride. Bob Long/KD3JK (the coordinator) said the race went well and the members were there in case they were needed. They had no problems! It was a beautiful day for the event, nice weather, and not a lot of heat. The race was over about 11:30. Thank you to all who made it to the Triathlon.

Joe Lockbaum/WA3PTV won the ARA Fox Hunt on July 26. Bill Harclerode/N8UKC was the "fox" and Joe found him resting near Hiram Percy Maxim (the original WIAW and ARRL Founder) in Rose Hill Cemetery in Hagerstown. Joe had 13 miles and was first to find the "fox". Page Pyne/WA3EOP found Bill a few minutes after Joe, and Matt Redding/N3XJO was near but did not find the "fox".

Charlie Mulligan/N3MVR gave his notice on August 5 that he could no longer do the net schedule or be on the nets on a regular basis because Charlie went back to work part-time. The ARA says THANKS Charlie! We would like to THANK Carlo Belella/K3ABH (editor of QRN) for putting the schedule and the preamble in our QRN Newsletter.

Watch out for the witches and the goblins on Halloween!

Until next time..73's, Donnie Sue

	Michael C. Martin
	N3RWF
	Interference Investigator
	<i>ESO&C Substation Operations & Test-Electronics</i>
	8400B Old Marlboro Pike Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
	Office/Fax 301 967-5230 Pager 202 530-3731 Email MCMARTIN@PEPCO.COM



Arlington Amateur Radio Club

Meeting: Third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M., Red Cross building, 4333 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA. Nonmembers welcome!

Net: Tuesdays (except meeting nights), 7:30 P.M., 144.87/145.47 Mhz FM.

Information: Mike Callaham, NW3V @ WA3TAI, callaham@CapAccess.org, (703) 241-5618.

LLBBS: Area 1 of Beachcomber Joe's BBS (703) 243-0024.

WWW: <http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/4306/>

The regular AARC club meeting was held on July 15th. The minutes for the June 17th meeting were approved as presented. In the absence of our secretary, Walt(KT4EL), Dee Cee (WD4FOX) graciously agreed to take the notes of the meeting and he will upload them to Beachcomber Joe's (KJ4S) LL BBS for further processing. Thanks D.C.

Field Day 1997 - Field Day '97 activities were reviewed with reports by Mike (NW3V) and Dennis (W4PWF). Mike discussed the article appearing in the Arlington Journal and is to be commended for the great publicity given the club for Field Day. A reduced copy of the article was provided in the last Beacon, and Mike had copies of the 1 July edition of the Journal for those who may have missed it. Dennis gave a report of scoring activity for the event, and the unofficial, but probably accurate number of points accumulated was 1902. It was agreed that field day at the club was a most enjoyable event, and probably was a realistic operation in a emergency situation. It was a great opportunity to utilize the entire inventory of station equipment, which all worked fine.

The 40/80 meter trap dipole was utilized on an extra position, and Mike (NW3V) used a 40

meter dipole which was hauled up the flagpole. Power usage was limited to the maximum possible without triggering off the Red Cross alarm system. The 80 meter CW position was operated at about 40-50 watts during the entire period. The KJ4S MFJ 989C tuner was used on this antenna. Club members Alan(KD4FRK) and George(KR4MU) dropped by on Sunday Morning for a short time. George assisted with the transmission of traffic via packet as a part of our operational program. Gerry, N2RGW (related to- Mike NW3V) was a welcome visitor for a considerable length of time during operation. The entire weekend was an extremely pleasant event with a prime example of smooth, effective teamwork.

In his absence, Walt (KT4EL) was lauded for his fine Saturday evening supper and the appetizing Sunday breakfast.

Several visitors came by during the operations including Jean (N4ZGI), Gerry (N3EVT), Tom (W4LMW), and John (WD4MIS). A good time was had by all!

Joe(KJ4S) stated that the next issue of the Beacon would include an updated roster.

Arlington Fair Participation Report - Jack(WA4FXX) briefly discussed the club proposal that we be present at the Arlington County Fair to be held next June. As of the meeting date, Jack was unable to make contact with the designated individual, and Alan volunteered to make the contact. This will be further discussed at the August meeting.

Main Program - The formal meeting was adjourned at 2042 hours local and Jack(WA4FXX) presented the main program topic of lightning dangers to amateur radio stations. A general discussion followed and many good points were discussed. Jack provided some good pointers and a good selection of handouts for sources and information on this subject. This is a subject that cannot be discussed enough, and we are all aware of the potential for lightning dangers during the summer months. Members discussed their own

steps to maximize their safety in their own locations. Mike (KA8OPJ) gave several good explanations of lightning dissipation concepts. This was an excellent time to "ring the bell" on the subject with many probable storms to visit us in the next few months.

Joe (KJ4S) provided a quickly edited videotape of Field Day, taken from his own footage and some provided by Tom (N4BYF). It showed the operational positions, the erection of the 40 meter dipole for Mike's (NW3V) position, periods of operations, scenes of the "cook" at breakfast, and the presence of the Journal photographer and reporter. The video will be edited further with some additional footage from the NW3V camera. We got to see some real "Hams" in this videotape!!

Respectfully submitted:
D.C., WD4FOX —(Acting Secretary)



Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Meetings: Twice monthly, 7:30 pm at Dulaney High School, 225 E Padonia Rd, shop #3... (June through Sept 97). -First Wednesday of the month -business meeting, Third Wednesday of the month - program.

Repeaters: W3FT/RPTR 146.67(-), 224.24 (-) (no PL) and 449.625(-)(PL 107.2) Note: two meter/220 Mhz. repeaters are linked.

Club Net: Every Tuesday night at 8:30 pm on 146.67/224.24.

NTS Net: Daily at 6:30 pm on 146.670/224.240

Club BBS: (410) 252-6238 (min. 2400 baud)

Information: (410) HAMTALK

Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest/Maryland State ARRL Convention information: (410) HAM-FEST or (800) HAM-FEST.

Club Address: BARC, Inc., P.O. BOX 120, Reisterstown MD 21136

BARC is 50 YEARS OLD

The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club was first chartered in 1947. To celebrate, a special events station will be on the air on VHF and HF-SSB. Look for W3FT on the air on Saturday, September 27, in the phone parts of the General bands. See QST for complete details. The picnic for club members will be held at the special event station site at the home of WB3JJL. Directions will be provided on the club net and at club meetings.

JOTA - Jamboree On The Air

BARC will participate with a troop at the Hammerman area of the Gunpowder State Park. See Tom, N3YHC, if you're interested in participating. This will be a 2-meter and HF operation.

QRZ Callsign Lookup by email

While it's not a club function, still, here's some useful info. To get a callsign lookup report from QRZ, including signs issued as recently as yesterday, send an email to lookup@qrz.com. In the body, have a line per callsign, containing the work "lookup" followed by a space and a callsign, example: lookup w1aw.

Repeater Update

The new Southwestern site is making some progress. It should be on the air before too long. Stay tuned.

ARES Support

The SET is HERE!!! on October 4. Get your field bag ready, make sure you have all the supplies and equipment needed to support the ARES and RACES clients. The Simulated Emergency Test is a big practice, once a year. This section-wide test is important to help us be prepared and to demonstrate to our clients that we can do the job.

73 for now, de N3VEJ, Doug



Capital City Amateur Radio Society

Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month at 1200 hours at the Woodridge Public Library, 18th and Rhode Island Ave, N.E., Washington, D.C. Visitors welcome.

Repeater: W3EIL 144.51/145.11 MHz, open.

Nets: Regular net Wednesday at 2000 hrs, RTTY net Thursdays 2100 hrs, voice portion 2145 hrs, all on 145.110.

Mailing Address: CCARS, 1719 Franklin Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20018-2033.

Information: Steve, W3ETX, (202) 526-1329 or Chester, W3EIL (202) 529-9598.

Ed W3HQ celebrated a Birthday, Thursday, August 21, 1997 greetings to him from the CCARS family. Ed also has moved his boat to this area. Listen out you may have a chance to work a Maritime Mobile, The Barbara II his yacht.

Chester and XYL reported that the OMIK Convention in St. Louis, Mo. was well attended and a whopping success. While in that part of the country they visited other relatives. Joe K3UAL entertained some of the local Ham community at a "Hamfeast" at his QTH. in July. Juanita N3NQC, was visited at the Washington Hospital Center by John our President N3TCD and Jim AA3CD. John and Jim also made a 'Eyeball' call on Tom AA3MN at his QTH in northwest Washington, D.C.

CCARS had it's first fall meeting at the Woodbridge Library, 18th & Rhode Island Avenue, N. E. Washington, D. C. after our summer break. All interested Hams are invited to attend our meetings.

Sam, N3ECI and Shep, WB3KIC made the trip to the Winchester Hamfest. Shep marveled at the tasty Virginia cooking.

73's Joe, K3UAL



Carroll County Amateur Radio Emergency Team & Radio Club

Address: Carroll County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2099, Westminister, MD 21158.

Repeaters: 2M: 145.410-, 70cm: 449.875,
6M: 53.090.

BBS: 145.03 & 446.075.

Nets: Tuesdays 8:30 p.m. local CARET Net
145.410-. Wednesdays: 8:00 p.m. local, Mason
Dixon Swap Net 145.410-.

Club Meetings: Business meeting Second
Monday of the month at the EOC in
Westminister. 7:30 p.m. local, talk-in: 145.410-
Program meeting: Last Wednesday of the
month at the EOC in Westminister. 7:30 p.m.
local, talk-in: 145.410-.

On Saturday morning, August 23rd, was the Fox Hunt. I was the fox with N3UN, N3YIM, N3MYJ, KA3YSH, KE3FL, and WA6IEL the pursuers. Wayne N3UN and Joe N3YIM were able to track me down with the persistent vigilance that Doug WA6IEL provided. The fun that was enjoyed by all there agreed that a hunt should be more than once a year.

Some more events coming up are: the American Diabetes Association walk on Saturday, September 13th. Let Phil KE3FL know if you would like to participate; the Wine Festival Bike Tour on September 20th. Notify Rich N3JIA if you would like to participate in this event; and then there is the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on Saturday October 4th. Notify Rich N3JIA so he will know how many people will be available. I would like to congratulate Rich N3JIA on his appointment to Emergency Coordinator of Carroll county.

The 440 repeater had a problem maintaining output power. After reporting the problem to Bill N3WM, he notified Tom N3PSB who went to

check it out as soon as possible. Tom found a bad solder joint, repaired it, and was out of there in the same night. Great job, Tom!

Congratulations are in order for the crew that participated in the Maryland-DC QSO party. Steve N3SB, Jerry N3GQK, Joe N3YIM, John N3MNM, Bill N3XLY and Jeannine put in a fine effort accumulating a score of 22, 145 points. Great job, gang!

In this month's QST, there is a very good article in the Public Service department. Have you seen it?

73 de WX3F



Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Club meeting: 4th Tuesday of the month at
7:30 p.m., at the Bethany United Methodist
Church, Bethany Lane, Ellicott City.

Net: 147.135 repeater at 8:30 p.m. each
Tuesday except for meeting nights.

Repeaters: 147.735/147.135 (cross-linked to
222.32/223.92); 147.990/147.390 (autopatch
& direct dial 911); 222.32/223.92 (cross-linked
to 147.735/147.135); 443.275/448.275, and
444.475/449.475 (autopatch & direct dial 911).

Information: Bob Scarburgh, Pres - KC3EV,
(410) 465-2421.

Mailing: P.O. Box 911, Columbia, MD 21044

The Tech Committee has been given authority to purchase new equipment to replace older gear at our Jonestown site. A return to the tone system of access to the repeater is being considered due to problems of skip, ducting and interference from other repeaters.

The July meeting recapped Field Day, its successes, and what we'd like to do next year. The Maryland QSO party was also discussed.

Congratulations to Michael S. Calhoon, N3SMI, of Arnold, MD, winner of the 1997 CARA scholarship. This is a \$1000 award and is administered for CARA by the FAR Scholarship Committee.

The CARA Hamfest is right around the corner, Oct 5th. Bob, KC3EV and Dick, W9RZ are still looking for more volunteers.

Until later, 73's, Jean Williams, KB3AOT



Dulles Amateur Radio Group

On-the-air meeting: Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. on the Dulles Airport repeater.

Repeater: N4FSC, 145.310 (Dulles)

Mail: Dulles Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 5073, Herndon, VA 22070-1964

Information: Mike Weber, WB8RDN, 703-450-2304, weberann@erols.com.

Packet: N4WJN BBS 145.030.

Web page: <http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Way/8873>.

The Dulles Amateur Radio Group (DARG) is a family-oriented ham radio club affiliated with the N4FSC repeater in Dulles, VA. Membership is open to all, and the club holds several social and operating events each year. Dues are \$20/yr for your entire family; members have access to the repeater's autopatch, and dues include a subscription or renewal to AutoCall. All area hams are warmly invited to join our information net on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm.

Another Field Day has come and gone, and once again the DARG effort was a rousing success. A fine time was had by all, we racked up a lot of points, Murphy stayed away and even Mother Nature cooperated with picture perfect weather. Many thanks to Craig N4FSC, and Mike N4FXP

for their leadership in pulling it all together this year. Your faithful reporter missed the party, due to a personal DXpedition to Key West, but lots of DARG members, family and friends got in on the fun: Mike, WB8RDN and kids Willie and Christine, Craig N4FSC, Mike N4FXP and harmonics Matthew and Kevin, Mark KR4FH (author of our Flogger packet-based logging database!), Bill W3EMH, Steve KA1LM, Gary KD4SRX, Mike KD4ITN, David KE4OKY, Tom WE7K, Terry AB4UM, Marcia KD4ITP, Jim KB3BSA, and Bill N4WJN. Many thanks to all concerned.

On 25 June, Tom WB8ZRP, Bill KS4II, and Mike WB8RDN met with officials from Loudoun Hospital to discuss communications needs during the planned 18 October "patient move" from the old Leesburn hospital to the new Lansdowne location. This will be a joint DARG/SPARC effort, and we will support them with voice and packet communications.

Twenty-five amateur volunteers are needed for this large project. There will be two mock tests of the move plan prior to October, and DARG/SPARC will participate.

The Loudoun Hospital officials were "thrilled" that DARG and SPARC were willing to support this project, and they were very impressed with the offered communications capabilities the amateurs could provide. Contact Mike WB8RDN at 703-450-2304 if you can help.

DARG now has an official Web page. The URL is <http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Way/8873>. Check it out for club info and details on club projects. Many thanks to Mark KR4FH for finding the host, and setting up the page. Nice job!

The next DARG exam session will be Saturday, August 16 at 8:45A. More details will follow here in Auto-Call, and on the Tuesday evening net.

73, de Mike N4PDY



Fauquier Amateur Radio Association

Meeting: 7:30 p.m., Second Thursday of the month except July, August and December. Crestar Bank, Warrenton Ctr, Warrenton VA.

Breakfast: Last Saturday of the month at Western Sizzlin Warrenton VA 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Net: Every Wednesday, 9:00 p.m., 147.165 Mhz NZ4N Repeater

Packet: KE4YVU FARA7 node 145.070 Mhz with direct connect to FBBS9, FBBS9 Bulletin Board 145.090 Mhz, FARA9 node 145.090 Mhz.

Repeater: NZ4N/R 147.165 Mhz (+0.600).

Newsletter: TOROID, Monthly. Deadline for submissions: 20th of the month. Contact Bonnie, n4qpb@mnsinc.com.

Info: Chuck Gould, N4YXW 540-347-0112. FARA, PO Box 752, Warrenton VA 20187

Web: <http://www.mnsinc.com/ki4ro/fara.htm>.

Next meeting: October 9th, Crestar Bank.

Fall Technician FCC license classes: Thursday evenings at Crestar Bank in Warrenton - contact Neil Spokes 540 364 3681

The summer has been quite busy in Fauquier County in spite of the usual summer recess. A dozen club members and their families participated in support of various public service activities. On July 27, seven FARA members and another six family members went in the extreme heat to help try to find 2 year old Dakota Hill who had strayed from his town house in Stafford Lakes not far from Fredericksburg. This search effort drew national attention, but was happily resolved when the boy reappeared after playing for two days in an adjacent empty town house to which he had gained access and subsequently was locked in, unknowingly, by another person. FARA provided communications support to the groups of searchers. One of FARA's hams is a workplace friend of the mother of the boy. The happy and surprising outcome was of great relief to us all.

Another occasion for FARA ham support was the annual Ride-a-thon which was held on August 16 at a new location this year - Marriott Ranch in Hume. This event is a fund raiser for Virginia's Therapeutic Riding Association.

On Saturday, August 23, several FARA hams participated in the joint ARES-National Red Cross SET (Simulated Emergency Test). We showed that using simplex 2m communications locally in Fauquier county, we could work with the ARES and Red Cross facilities across the metropolitan area.

An impromptu 2m simplex relay was established through a Fair Oaks ARES station and links via hams at the DC Red Cross Chapter permitted activation of two way HF/message communications with the Norfolk, VA emergency Red Cross Center. As in all such tests, it became clear that improvements can be made to our operations and even better capabilities will be implemented. FARA ARES members participating in the National Capital ARES Council's Simulated Emergency Test on 23 August from 1300Z to 1545Z were: K4LLQ, Larry Walker-Net Manager; KE4TSP, Leon Hall-Net Control; AB4YK, Neil Spokes - National Capital Net Liaison; KF4JMY, Marty Maziarz-National Capital Net Liaison; KE4QJH, Emerson Behee-Tech Assistance and Mobile road condition reports; KE4RQD, Bonnie Behee-Logistical Assistance and Mobile road condition reports.

In addition to FARA ARES members, other Fauquier participants were: Pamela Smith—Warrenton Red Cross Chapter Manager; Lynne Covey-Warrenton Red Cross Disaster Chairman; Amanda Behee-Assistant to Net Control Classes for the Technician Class FCC licenses started Sept 4. The FARA Sept 11 meeting included a videotape of the Heard Island DXpedition. The October 9 meeting will include a video tape of amateur satellite related operations - a good start to the fall amateur radio season in Fauquier.

Neil, AB4YK



Goddard Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Meeting: Third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Goddard Amateur Radio Club station, Soil Conservation Road, Greenbelt, MD, across from the Soil Conservation Road gate of the Goddard Space Flight Center. This road may be accessed from either Route 193, Greenbelt Road, or Powder Mill Road.

Net: Information net is held every Thursday evening at 9:00 p.m. local time. All amateur radio operators are welcomed. Net Control is Don Bennett, W3MIK

Repeater: 146.835 Mhz.

Information: Jim Blackwell, N3KWU, (301) 286-4534; Vikki Gigante-Hueber, KA3PVS, (301) 249-2609.



Green Mountain Repeater Association

Repeaters: *146.61 Cheverly, *146.88 Greenbelt. *(Autopatch).

Information: Don Tinari, W3RYQ, (301) 262-7062.

Mail: P.O. Box 523, Bowie, MD. 20718.

E-mail: mgreen@erols.com.

Socials: Luncheon, 1st Saturday of each month at 11:30 A.M., Laurel Centre Indoor Mall Eatery.

Nets: 146.88 - Old Gent's Net, 9:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M. every day. Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Association Net, every Thursday at 9:30 P.M.

Hi all! We are in the process at WA3NAN of transitioning in a very important way. We are continuing to make improvements on shuttle retransmission and are looking into remote control operations that meet with FCC approval for the future.

Also, I have stepped down as Shuttle Retransmission director after eight years of service due to increased family and business commitments. I will remain as FAR Trustee from WA3NAN.

It has been a wonderful eight years and the Shuttle Retransmission Program remains healthy and should get healthier with someone who can dedicate to the program the kinds of hours that are needed to make it successful. I will remain in a helper role.

GARC will have a table at FARFEST so please stop by.

Sincerely
Vikki Gigante, KA3PVS

A NEW COMPACT HANDHELD

Congratulations are in order to Sally VE3VJU and Derrick N3RQS on the arrival of a new compact handheld. The output power is 8.11 watts and the length is 22 inches. Well ahead of the three major amateur radio manufacturers in it's design, this one is straight from heaven and called the MDE-1, short title for Matthew Davies Early, Model #1. A special delivery was made on July 29 at 1159 p.m. Listen to our repeaters in the near future to hear the compact's distinct audio quality, especially in the wee hours of the morning.

A TOUCH OF CLASS

The following is a breakdown of GMRA membership by license class as of August 20 1997:

Extra:	41	(17.7%)
Advanced:	46	(20.0%)
General:	47	(20.3%)
Technician:	74	(32.0%)
Technician +:	23	(10.0%)
Total:	231	100%

UNDER THE WEATHER

Two of our members have been "under the weather". Doc, N3NAG is hospitalized and Jim, N3LDJ is in a rehabilitation center for therapy.

Both are not without communications, however. Doc was autopatched into The Old Gent's Net on several occasions by Roy, N3NGA and sounded pretty "chipper". Jim has a 2 meter handheld and thanks to HD, N3LFL, was provided with a better antenna and a repair job when the antenna cable became loose from the BNC connector.

Im certain by the time you read this column, both will be back home. Be well guys!

UPGRADE

Congratulations to Samson, KF3AG (formally N3TJU). On Saturday, August 16th he passed his ADVANCED test! Electronic submission by the local VEC to the FCC data banks, provided his new call within 24 hours. It seems the assignments are automatic. Samson already has his 20 wpm CW certificate so my bet is that he will be an Extra by the time you read the next GMRA Auto Call column. Samson also celebrated his 15th birthday on August 25th.

INTERNET/REPEATER UPDATE!

Here are some operational tips when the repeater(s) are linked to the Internet:

1. **CALLING & CONNECTING:** Amateurs calling into our repeaters from the internet, should operate no differently from amateurs calling in locally. Repeater access is automatic and does not require manual intervention. Connecting the repeaters OUT to a particular amateur or another repeater on the internet, however, can only be done manually from the computer interface.

2. **TRANSPARENT:** The actual linking of the repeater(s) to the internet is transparent to the

repeater's normal operation. In essence the repeater is NOT tied up. It's simply extended out world-wide for amateurs to check-in just like local users.

3. **DELAY TIME:** When an internet amateur station turns it over to a local station to transmit, there is usually a longer delay than normal, until the repeater reset tone is heard. This can be anywhere from 5 to 15 seconds. Please be patient and wait for the tone to avoid unnecessary repeater timeout.

4. **CHECKS:** Software instantly checks the amateur's callsign "off the air", and if valid they are permitted to access the repeater. (The callsign is matched against callbook links such as Buckmaster, QRZ, The University of Arkansas data banks, etc.) This complies with FCC regulations.

5. **EXPLORE AND ENJOY IT'S USE:** Finally, we want you to know that GMRA considers the operation as a technological ADDITION to our repeater operation. It is a means to work amateurs out of our area for those of us that cannot afford or are not permitted to install HF antennas. And an incentive to upgrade for those amateurs who are not licensed to operate HF. We encourage you to explore, use and enjoy the repeater addition in the best interest of amateur radio.....

73 de Murray K3BEQ



Licensed at least 25 years ago?

And licensed now?

Then you should belong to the

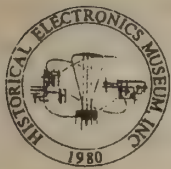
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Eugene, OR 97401-4017

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Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 5:30 PM, In the Historical Electronics Museum, West Nursery Road and Elkridge Landing Roads. Linthicum, Maryland (Next to BWI Marriott Hotel).

Club Station: W3GR.

Info: Herman Turner, WK3P (410) 647-4178.

Mail: P.O. Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203.

Street address: 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090.

Note: The meeting night of HEMARC has been changed from the second Wednesday night of each month to the second **Thursday night** of every month.

BAARS members Joins HEMARC

The fine old club The Bay Area Amateur Radio Society is merging into HEMARC. The following BAARS members are most welcome:

Milton Basford, N3YBI
Charles Seggie, N3EYV
Alan Raichel N3IKI
Les Jamison, WR3X
Anthony Marino, N3GXZ
Hal Camlin, W3QLP
Bill Wallace, N3NZA
John Condiff, KA3WSR

This good work was accomplished thanks to the efforts of Ray Robley, KD3KK who was a member of both clubs.

A visit to the old Navy VLF transmission site Nick Yokanovich, N3YVW arranged for a most interesting visit to the now inoperative NSS VLF transmitter in Annapolis. A tour of this amazing

very high powered transmitter was conducted by a retired NSS employee. The awesome towers are due to be removed next year.

Ham Band Rules Enforcement

A discussion of the proposed Rules Making Partition RM 9150 (which was submitted to the FCC by the ARRL this spring) was lead by Herman Turner, WP3K. The thrust of this was described as our last chance to improve the enforcement of FCC rules on the hambands. The Amateur Auxiliary would be empowered to bring serious violations before the FCC Chief Administrative Law Judge for possible action. Everyone was encourage to write the FCC a reasoned letter on their position on this very important issue.

The last cards from the Special Event and the score sheet from Field Day are now in the mail.

To improve operations for the next special event Gary Ryan, W3GMY has donated a new GAP Titan Vertical Antenna and both a UMT and a local time clock. Many thanks Gary!

250 TH TUBES ANYONE ?

The power output of the BC-610 is still only about 25% of specification. Replacement of one 250 TH tube did bring it up somewhat but it appears that both finals are soft. If anyone has any good 250 TH's please call Ernie Farkas, K3CBW at 410-747-1377.

A Digital HF Ham station

The technical session of the August meeting was a viewgraph discussion of the digitized station of Rol Anders, K3RA. This was followed by a visit to Rol's hamshack to see this modern wonder in operation. It was impressive to say the least. Logging, spotting, frequency shifting, tuning et all were by the PC. The ham operating table has come a long way from a box of xtals and a log book.

73 de Chip, W4PBG



Laurel Amateur Radio Club

A Volunteer Examiner Coordinator

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month (except November & December) 7:30pm at 384 Main Street, Laurel Md.

Social: 2nd Wednesday of each month, except December (Call for directions).

Nets: 1st & 3rd & 5th Wednesdays, 8:30pm, on 147.225+, no tone.

Mail: P. O. Box 3039, Laurel, MD 20709-0039

Exams: 3rd Saturday of each month, to pre-register contact: John/WB3GXW (301) 572-5124 after 6 P.M.

Information: Mark/N3NTQ (301) 572-2385 or Roger/W3LM (301) 776-6961.

Web Site: <http://www.webtrek.com/~laurel/org/larc>. E-mail: laurel@webtrek.com

It has often been mentioned that club membership can offer a variety of avenues to explore in this larger arena of ham radio.

An example of that was the participation of the Laurel Amateur Radio Club in the MD-DC QSO party, sponsored by the Antietam Radio Club. With donated time and equipment, the LARC has set up a club station at the business of Mike/WB3HUP.

Over the years, some of the members who have been interested in contesting have worked out of someone's house to participate in the ARRL Sweepstakes and the MD-DC QSO party. This time we had our own station. We won the club category last year and we are hoping that we may have won it again this year.

But the fact that a group of people who share enjoyment in an activity can get together once in awhile to work at it, is a real plus for the club venue. Win or lose, we have fun doing it. In these days of stress and tension, we really need to savor those moments of fun.

Our monthly social get together has been changed to a new setting. We are now meeting around 7 p.m. (Happy Hour ends then, so come earlier if you want a cheaper libation) at Tubby's Diner, on Rt 198 just west of Bond Mill Road. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month and invite anyone to join us for some eyeball QSO's.

This month's meeting (fourth Wednesday) featured Ken Stuart/W3VFN who gave a great talk on batteries. We'll be having copies of his overhead projector notes available at the next meeting. He shattered some misconceptions and gave a lot of practical information.

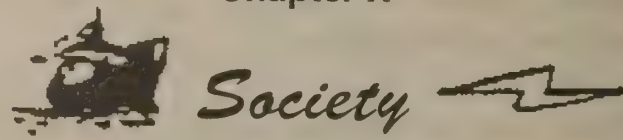
Upcoming events for the LARC will be the Pallotti Cross Country Invitational Track Meet which usually draws about 1000 high school runners from all over. We also will be doing communications for the city's Riverfest Festival, and will be helping with the CROP Walk.

In October we plan to have an antenna building party and make J-Poles out of copper tubing. Our Novice/Tech course gets underway on 22 Sep and we have at least ten folks signed up for that.

Find a club to hang your hat with (if you don't have a hat, I suspect you'll be able to buy one from them) and get active and involved.

73 de Jim/WI3N

Chapter X


Society of Wireless Pioneers

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Leisure World Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Tuesday, each month at 2 P.M. local time in Clubhouse #1, Leisure World, Silver Spring, MD

Net: Each Monday at 7 P.M. local time on 146.490 simplex

Information: Bob Beck, KA3IHQ, 301-598-6277

The Leisure World Amateur Radio Club celebrates its tenth anniversary this month. The Club, which was founded 10 years ago by senior citizens in the Leisure World community has come a long way from its initial four charter members and what was not much more than a "closet" for its ham shack.

The club now is proud to have 29 members and last month opened its own new 200 sq ft. operating room with all the necessary amenities in HF and VHF equipment and antennas for ham radio activities including packet and RTTY.

Current officers are "Lee" Barsky, W3FRM, President; C. J. (Arch) Arcilesi, K3WUR, Vice-President; Bob Beck, KA3IHQ, Secretary (and one of the founding charter members); and Dave Gleason, K3OBK, Treasurer. Our Technical Advisor, Frank Blasdel, NN3B, is another of the original charter members.

We are indebted for much of the work in getting the new shack set up to Bud Thompson, NØAA, and his XYL helpmate Terry, NØKYZ, and to Jake, KA3MJD, who can still scamper up a tower to work on a beam antenna.

Club meetings are at 2 P.M. local time the second Tuesday of each month and a very interesting net is held at 7 P.M. local time each Monday evening, in which 40 percent member

participation is not unusual. The net is conducted on simplex 146.490 with Bob, our Secretary, as net control.

The club is affiliated with both the ARRL and the FAR. Our Club station call is W3LWM.

The club serves the community by monitoring activities such as parades, walk-a-thons, etc., and participates in other community functions. Our public relations representative, Vert Mandelstamm, W3ADS, makes sure he keeps us in the community's "eye" with his excellent articles in the Leisure World News.

Soon we plan to have an "open house" for residents of Leisure World of Maryland, show them our club station and extol the wonders of amateur radio.

Some of our members belong to other local amateur radio clubs such as the Green Mountain Repeater Association, the Northern Virginia FM Association, The NIH Amateur Radio Club and the Quarter Century Wireless Association Chapters.

One of these days we may even take some photos and send them to the editor to let you see what our station and we old duffers look like. In the meantime we invite any radio amateur, whether a club member or not, to join us on our Monday night 2 meter net.

73, Arch, K3WUR

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The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M.
NBC Building - WKYS Conference Room,
4001 Nebraska Avenue, Washington, DC.

Nets: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. on
145.45 MHz (PL-5A).

Repeaters: 444.100/449.100 MHz (PL-2A),
145.45/144.85 MHz (PL-5A).

WWW Address: <http://mvhsl.mbhs.edu/~fwright/MADRAS.html>

Mailing: P. O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902

Information: Larry Ziecheck - N3GKZ (301)
984-6113, Jean Blacik N3PLC (301) 984-
6113.

Our End of Summer dinner at the Far East restaurant in Rockville on August 21st turned out exceptionally well. Over half the membership were there enjoying the delights of the Orient. We all ordered different dishes and had loads of fun sampling everyone's selection. This restaurant has become a favorite haunt for MADRAS members due to its superb cuisine and its friendly atmosphere. Drop by for lunch or dinner if you are in the Rockville area - you won't be disappointed.

Several of our members attended the Montgomery County Fair this year and enjoyed viewing all the exhibits and special events. Many of us made it a point to check out all the livestock, chickens and bunny rabbits. One of the highlights of the Fair was the pig races. Of course, sampling all the great junk food made the trip worth while.

QSL cards are still coming in from our last two special events. We'd like to thank Leo Boberschmidt KA3TGY, for the great job he is doing handling these requests and sending out responses.

What a pleasure to have so many of you renew your MADRAS membership this year. For those

of you who haven't sent in your dues, please take a minute to fill out the membership letter and drop it in the mail, along with your check of course.

Just a reminder that October is the month for election of new officers for the 1997 - 1998 season. Nominations will take place on the 9th of October and voting on the 23rd of October. We do hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend these two meetings.

With the fall season in full swing and summer behind us, we hope there will be more activity on our Thursday Nite Net, which meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, on 145.45, at 9:00 P.M.

73 Jean - N3PLC



Metrovision Amateur TV Club

Fast Scan Color ATV

Meetings: Quarterly: Time and place TBD.

Repeater: WA9GVK/4 (video/audio) Input:
425-431 Mhz. Output: 438-444 Mhz. Acces-
sible 144.970 Simplex FM Voice.

On-the-air: Sundays and Wed. 8:00 P.M.

Mailing: Metrovision, Inc., 3422 Silver Maple
Place, Falls Church, VA 22042.

Information: Sam - N3GHY (301 430-3373)

Jim - KA4CKI (703) 494-6342

Tom - KO40X (540) 752-2100

Rich - KA3BTD (301) 843-1253

Metrovision now has a brand new home page thanks to my son Rick - KB8SPV in Berea Ohio. We can now be located at <http://www.bchfs.org/metrovision/atv.htm>. Our new Home Page has new pictures and our history page. Jim Tury - KA4CKI has volunteered to upgrade our history page to make it even better. There will also be audio clips from our club founder, Bruce Brown - WA9GVK. All the Metrovision members would like to give Bob Curry - KC3VO our gratitude and many thanks

for giving Metrovision some microwave equipment. The equipment was sold to an interested party for \$2,900. A real nice sum to add to our repeater fund for possible maintenance and up grades.

Both Gerald - KB4QGJ and Jim - KA4CKI have been doing an excellent job as our net control operators on Wednesdays and Sundays. Our nets have been doing well and the picture quality is improving do to the propagation in the evening hours. Of course as the leaves fall off the trees the pictures will be even better (leaves offer resistance you know, hi hi).

Tom - KO40X and Jim - KA4CKI recently did some house cleaning maintenance at the repeater site. Jim made several revisits to do alignments on the equipment.

If you don't understand video then you don't understand what it takes to make a good picture. I like to think it's magic but it's really knowledge of video equipment and linear amplifiers. However, when you buy the commercially available equipment for your ham shack all the guess work is taken out of it. Sort of "plug and play" and on the air you go.

Did you know that if you have a cable ready TV set (and we all do) and connect your 432/440 UHF antenna to TV antenna input jack and select channel 60 you may be able to see our Metrovision nets. TV channels 57 thru 60 fall within the 70 cm ham band. Those that are within 15 to 18 miles from the repeater will have the best chance of seeing us. Our transmitter is located at Rt. 395 and Seminary Rd. and we use a horizontal polarized antenna.

Try it and let us know if you can see us. You can hear and talk to us on 144.970 in the simplex mode.

I'll be "seeing you"
73's Rich - KA3BTD



National Capitol DX Association

Meetings: Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec. at a member's home. Contact the Secretary (Rick Murphy, K1MU) for details.

On-the-air: Every Sunday at 8:30 PM on the 147.000 repeater. All are welcome!

Information: Rick Murphy-K1MU (703) 280-2637 or Leo Boberschmidt-KA3TGY (301) 946-3738.

Our August meeting was held at the delightful QTH of Marty/W3YOZ. Although a very hot day [105 in town], the shade under all the trees and the breezes off the creek made it a very bearable day. This is an annual joint meeting with the Potomac Valley Radio Club [PVRC]. About 55-60 hams and family members attended. It's always a great opportunity to see Marty's antenna system and ham shack. And, as usual, the location along the creek makes for a very fine day.

At this meeting, NCDXA presented an Honorary Membership to Marty, W3YOZ, for his annual hosting of the chicken barbeque, a.k.a. The Fowlfest. [By the way, Marty's barbecue chef has moved up to New Hope, PA last year but insisted that he wants to continue his duties each year for the Fowlfest]. Yuki, JH1NBN/K3ZB, was there for a final visit before heading back to Japan the end of August. All of us had plenty of suggestions for Yuki as to where he should go on any DXpeditions from his home in Japan, with a P5 operation heading the list. Yuki, we will miss you at the meetings and look forward to working you from over there, especially now that propagation is definitely improving.

NCDXA holds a weekly Sunday Night Meeting On The Air. Want to keep up with the latest DX and club happenings? Stop by each Sunday evening at 8:30 PM on 147.000 [-] to hear NC3DX on the air.

NEXT MEETING: October Meeting: Oct 18th, venue still to be determined. This is our Annual Election of Officers meeting. If you want to be considered as an officer, please contact one of the present officers listed at the top of this article. Also, dues will be due, so plan on bringing a check for Henry, W3UJ. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Full details and directions will be sent to members in early October.

73 till next time de Leo - KA3TGY
NCDXA President [leob@erols.com]



Northern Virginia FM Association

Meetings: Fall, Winter and Spring at Virginia Power, On Rt 50 just west of the West Ox Road overpass and the Fair Oaks Mall.

Weekly Nets: NVFMA Talk Net, Mon, 8:00 PM, 146.79; NVFMA Swap Net, Tue, 8:00 PM, 146.91; NVFMA Clinic, 1st Wed of the month, 7:30 PM, 146.79; NVFMA Net, Wed, 8:00 PM, 146.79; ARES, Sun, 9 PM, 146.91.

Repeaters: 52.37/53.37, 146.19/146.79, 146.31/146.91, 222.50/224.10 Xlink, 222.74/224.34, 449.75/444.75, 447.025/442.025, 907.5/917.5, and 1272.1/1292.1.

Membership Info: Ann McWhirt KF4OSL, (703) 330-7429 or email to ammom@erols.com.

E-mail address: nvfma@juno.com.

Web Site: <http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Way/5337/>

Mailing Address: NVFMA, P.O. Box 486, McLean, VA 22101.

Mark your calendars for our next general membership to be held on October 16, 1997 at 1900 hrs (7:00 PM) at the Virginia Power offices on Route 50, 1/2 mile East of the Fairfax County Parkway or just west of the Fair Oaks Shopping Center. We hope to have a lively discussion about NVFMA's future role in public service so come

and express your opinion.

The 70 cm repeater should be back on the air by the time you are reading this. It has not only been upgraded, the frequencies have been changed to reduce or eliminate the interference we've had for some time. The new frequencies are 447.025 input, 442.025 output. If the PL tone is activated, the frequency will be the same as it was before, 131.8 Hz. The upgrades include the addition of a voter and our first 70 cm remote site which is located on Bull Run Mountain. Many thanks to our Technical Activities Group leader, Sam, KM4OI for a job well done. Thanks also to the several assistants he had in removing the 70 cm repeater from its site back in July including: Kent, KD4SJJ, John, KE4VIH, Owen, K6LEW, Bill, W3HFX, and Barry, KF4LWX.

NVFMA also has a new 900 MHz repeater on the air from Bull Run Mountain thanks to site manager, Owen, K6LEW. The frequencies are 907.5 MHz input / 919.5 MHz output. Why don't you give it a try sometime.

Hope to see you at our October general membership on the 16th.

73 from Maury, W0HYB
Vice President, w0hyb@juno.com



Prince George's Wireless Association

Meetings: First working Tuesday of each month, 7:30 PM; American Red Cross bldg., 6206 Belcrest Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Club Station: K3CEZ

Mailing: 4109 Kennedy St., Hyattsville, MD 20781

Information: Frank Holton - WA3ZMW
(301) 927-1245

PGWA held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 5, 1997 at the Hyattsville Chapter

of the American Red Cross.

Prior to the meeting, Frank, WA3ZMW, Club President and a few of the members, met at Shoney's in P.G. Plaza for dinner.

The monthly meetings are always held in the Club's radio room which is well furnished and suited for a group of this size.

Lately, as has been mentioned before, attendance has dropped off considerably. Frank, Club President with the help of his daughter, Muriel, decided to possibly help to rectify this problem.

Muriel, using her computer, printed quite a few graphic ideas in color depicting ways and thoughts of renewing interest in bringing back members to the meetings.

The sole purpose of PGWA is to act as communicators on the Amateur frequencies for the Red Cross during disaster situations.. Possibly, PGWA may have to merge with another Club.

73's from Ken Easton N3HLY



Quarter Century Wireless Assn. Chapter #91

Meetings: Neighbor's Restaurant, Cedar Lane and Park Street, Vienna, VA; third Saturdays; Noon. Business/Program Meetings: Odd-numbered months. (Come at 11:30 to chat; program begins at noon.) Informal/Ragchew Meetings: Even-numbered months.

Newsletter: Bi-monthly to all members.

Information: Dick Rucker (KM4ML), Secretary; 10426 Darby St., Fairfax, VA 22030-3603; 703-591-3279. Also on the VHF net.

VHF FM Net: Sunday 9 AM, 146.79MHz.

members and guests to our July meeting. We particularly greeted our newest member, Dale Harris (W4DM). Welcome aboard, Dale!

Main Program — Luther Hux (N4BZQ) spoke about the record-breaking flight made by Dick Rutan and Jeanna Yeager in 1986. They flew Voyager, a powered craft that looks like a sailplane with twin booms supporting the rudder assembly. Voyager was designed by Dick's brother, Burt Rutan, expressly for this flight.

Voyager, piloted by Dick and Jeanna, is the only airplane to have made a non-stop flight around the world without refueling. At departure, Voyager was 1800 pounds of airplane and 9000 pounds of fuel; at touchdown nine days later, only 18 gallons of fuel remained.

Luther displayed two models of Voyager he scratch-built shortly after its flight. One was a flying model he scaled, designed, and built using only photos and a few key dimensions published in a Newsweek magazine. The model had a nine-foot wing span (the original's was 110 feet).

The other model was a full-scale mockup of the cockpit and storage compartment. Luther used this to illustrate how difficult conditions were for Dick and Jeanna during their nine days aloft. As pilot, Dick spent most of the time in the seat on the right; copilot Jeanna lay prone on the left. Dick Rucker, (KM4ML) and Jim Wilcox (W3WV) being about the same sizes as Dick and Jeanna, squeezed into the cockpit and showed the contortions necessary to switch places.

Voyager had two engines mounted fore and aft of the cockpit/storage compartment. The noise level in the cockpit during flight was over 100 dB. Luther recounted Jeanna's description of the flexibility of Voyager's wings: turbulence could cause a visible shock wave to travel from a wing-tip, down the wing, shake the cockpit, and then travel out the other wing.

President Frank Haynes (W4NUA) and Vice President Al Wheeler (WB4JJJ) welcomed 28

Luther's flying model was displayed in the


Academy of Model Aeronautics Museum. This led to an invitation by the Smithsonian Institution to attend the Collier Trophy dinner honoring the Voyager creator and crew. Burt, Dick, and Jeanna each autographed the model's wings.

Luther noted that Jeanna and Burt were licensed Amateur radio operators and used several Amateur frequency bands, in addition to specially-assigned frequencies, to maintain contact with the ground. (Jim Wilcox and Lew Bradley (W4SWP) each had monitored Voyager's communications.) Luther said that he would like to talk with anyone who listened to, talked with, or recorded radio contacts of the Voyager crew. If you, or anyone you know, can assist, give Luther a call at 703-573-1244 (home) or e-mail him at HuxD@erols.com.

Business — Secretary Dick Rucker and Treasurer Al Cammarata (W3AWU) presented their reports. Annual (almost) holiday party: Al Wheeler will head the committee consisting of Frank Haynes and Al Cammarata. QCWA report: National President Jack Kelleher (W4ZC) presented international news.

Auction, etc. — Of course, we couldn't do without the auction and related activities. Auctioned items were donated by: Jack Kelleher (W4ZC) (a WWII Murdock headset and a BC-221 Frequency Meter); Milt Snyder (W4AWL) (a RTTY/ASCII/CW terminal; a large box of vacuum tubes, some in original cartons; a Saba "hi-fi" vacuum-tube AM, FM, SW receiver); Carl Gray (W4ACM) (two circular slide rules). Only \$42.00 was brought in by the fund-raising events, so you know there were some REAL bargains here!!

ar 73 de Jim, W3WV, and Dick, KM4ML



Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO CALL

are due no later than
the 1st of the month prior to the
month of publication!!



Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First and Third Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. SVARC Club House 2921 Grace Street, Winchester, Virginia.

Repeater: 146.22 In/ 146.82 Out.

Net: Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net (SVEN) 7:15 daily on 146.22/146.82 Repeater.

Mailing: P.O. Box 139 Winchester, 22604.

President: Fred Wetzel (W4KRT).

Info: Irvin Barb, W4DHU, 955-1745.

Internet home page: <http://www.vvalley.com/svarc>.

Greetings once again from the valley! Apple harvest season is upon us and many of us have enjoyed this years crop. Since I missed the September issue, there's some catching up to do. First of all, many, many thanks to those of you who drove out to the valley to visit us at the hamfest. Irv Barb, the Hamfest Committee chairperson was tickled pink that we had such a good turnout. The nice weather certainly made it enjoyable. In fact, this Hamfest was one of the two best that we've had in the past ten years! Thanks also to those club members who helped from mid-day Saturday through Sunday. We appreciate all of your good work.

The prize winners from the Hamfest were:

Don Smith, Locust Grove, VA.
Maurice Cahill, KA3EJJ, Ellicott City, MD
Jim Johnston, W1VA, Roanoke, VA
Kevin Bowman, Lovettsville, VA
JK Ramaiya, KBØCKV, ND
Congratulations gentleman!

In mid-September the annual club picnic was held. Several members also presented demonstrations of various ham gear and there was some swapping going on as well. Rick Choy, N3HXT cooked for us (and mmmmmm, it WAS

good!). Jane Barb, KD4IET, our wonderful social director made sure all the details were just perfect. We had lots of fun, stuffed ourselves and enjoyed each others company.

That's a wrap from the valley!

73 de KE4QJT/Laura



St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association

Meetings: Fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM, at the Lexington Park library.

Repeater: K3HKI (146.64 MHz)

Packet: K3HKI.#SOMD.MD.USA.NOAM (145.75/145.01/223.58/440.975 MHz)

Lunch Bunch: Every Friday, listen on the 146.64 MHz repeater between 10-11:30 AM to find out where to meet.

Nets: - "St. Mary's ARES", every Monday at 8:00 PM on 146.64 MHz - "Bottom County", every Wednesday at 8:00 PM on 146.64 MHz.

Address: SMCARA, P.O. Box 743, California, Maryland 20619.

Newsletters: Complimentary copies are available at local Radio Shack stores.

The Saint Mary's County Amateur Radio Association (SMCARA) set up an NTS message center and general information booth at the Mt. Zion Good Ole Days Country Fair recently. With help from John KB3AMO, Chris KA3GLF, BJ N3RVX and Mark KE3OX, we gave the general public a look at how amateur radio can be of assistance to the local community.

We are looking forward to the Solomons Biathlon, Amish 100, SET, and CALVEX drill this fall. We will have participated in excess of one dozen public service events this year. BJ N3RVX, EC St. Mary's County deserves a big bravo zulu for his efforts. Al, KJ3E, laid the foundation for our training and BJ has taken the reigns and moved

forward.

With elections for new officers coming up this fall, SMCARA is looking to move forward into 1998. 73 and see you next month.

Mark KE3OX



Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 8:00 P.M. - Third Monday of the month except July and August at Sterling Community Center Annex, Church Rd. (Rt. 625) near Route 28, Sterling, VA.

Mailing: Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.

Information: Bill Lorentz, KS4II, 703-444-6341 or via email KS4II@AOL.com.

As I write this article I am still stuffed with pizza from our annual August Pizza Party. We had 24 members, spouses and children attend the party at the Countryside Cafe in Sterling. It was great to see everyone there and I hope we can gather an even larger group next year.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to support the Loudoun Hospital move. This is an effort of all hams in the local area with leadership being provided through a joint effort between Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club and the Dulles Amateur Radio Group. We participated in the first mock move on Saturday, August 23, 1997. We learned quite a bit from the move of 2 mock patients, Murphy was an optimist! This is a great opportunity to put our communication skills to use for the greater good of the community. There will be a second mock move in September and the real move will happen in October.

I was pleased to receive an email from John Shannon, K3WWP thanking the club for including the CW and QRP categories in the Virginia QSO Party. John is an avid QRP'er and invited us to

check in on his Ham Radio Activities at his web site www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/3852. This looks like a good site with lots of QRP and County Hunting information.

73, Bill, KS4II



The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council, Inc.

Meetings: Coordinating Committee (CC) normally meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the OEP conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center off Central Avenue. Talk-in on 147.18.

Address: P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.

Web Page: [HTTP://WWW.T-MARC.ORG](http://WWW.T-MARC.ORG).

Information: President - Owen Wormser K6LEW (703)684-7682 CC Chairman - Bill Conaway W8HNT, Pager (703)741-4251. Ombudsman - Jim Erickson K3LFO (410)549-1041, K3LFO@APEXGRP.COM.

Final plans have been made for the Annual Meeting and election of officers for the 1998 year. The meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon, November 2nd at 2 PM in the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street, in Old Town Alexandria. We hope all system sponsors will attend, whether you are a member of T-MARC or not, since nearly all of our activities affect all systems in one way or another. Talk-in on the NVFMA repeaters, 53.37, 146.79 and 224.34.

Dues for the 1998 year will be due in order to be able to vote, so bring money! K3HOI, our treasurer, will be looking forward to greeting each of you personally. Dues are \$10 for individuals, \$24 for groups from 2 to 100 members, and \$100 for larger clubs of over 100 members. We'll hold an election for officers and have a report on the activities of the Open Band Planning Committee regarding some changes to our band plans.

Speaking of elections, several of the current officers have been in their positions long enough that they cannot be re-elected to the same positions (due to term limits) unless nobody else is nominated to replace them. And I understand that a couple of them may not be available to serve on the Board of Directors at all, next year. So if you are interested in helping this worthwhile organization, don't be shy! We're looking for you.

By the way, our treasurer and our coordinating committee chairman would both like to have your E-mail addresses, if you have them. Things seem to go a lot faster with E-mail, as compared to "snail mail". So when you re-up your dues (or even if you don't), please give us your E-mail address at the same time.

New construction coordinations have been issued to N3YMS on 146.79 at Dover, Del., and N3NAB on 146.745 at Rising Sun, in northeastern Md.

See you at the Annual Meeting!
73, Gary, W3DTN, T-MARC PIO



Vienna Wireless Society

Meeting: 7:30pm second and fourth Fridays of the month at the Vienna Community Center.

Nets: Pow-Wow nightly at 9 pm. on 28.444 MHz Slow speed code, nightly 8:30 pm on 28.390 MHz. Vienna Emergency Net, Wednesday 7:30 pm 146.085/146.685

Repeater: K4HTA 146.685(-), 448.375(-).

Information: Kerry Kingham WA4BQM, president, (703) 691-2719; Program: Mike Steussey AE4R, (703) 281-0010.

Mailing: P.O. Box 418 Vienna, VA. 22183

Recent Events: At the August 8 meeting, we were treated to an impromptu lecture on antenna theory basics by Mike Toia, K3MT, who has replaced the late Paul Wilkins, AB4CY, as the "go

to" guy when circumstances force the scheduled speaker to be elsewhere. On Sunday, August 24, President Kerry Kingham hosted the club picnic at the U.S. Naval Observatory, his "office". Included was a tour of the facilities.

Our new education team is presently teaching a license class for about a dozen people. The classes are scheduled to culminate late in September with a license examination.

Future programs: For the next and only meeting in September on the 12th, Mike Callaham, NW3V will speak on packet radio techniques. The October 10 meeting will feature John Kanode, N4MM, of the ARRL speaking on "ARRL news and views".

Please note: There is NO meeting on September 26!

Bill Kamm, KC4VXH

FAR Meeting Minutes, from page 17

about license structuring continued at the ARRL Board Meeting. The ARRL Convention in Jacksonville, Florida was held the week before last. And, finally, discussion continues on Little LEOS. Two participants have consolidated their efforts into a single enterprise and another has decided to discontinue its efforts entirely. This means that there will be two (2) fewer organizations involved.

The Federal City REACT Amateur Radio Club applied for membership in FAR. Their Trustees are Michael Holland, N3YGU and Norman Kaplan, N3LDM. Their organization promotes the use of radios for public service volunteer and emergency communications. The application was approved. We welcome the Federal City REACT Amateur Radio Club into the Foundation with the expectation of a mutually beneficial association.

Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported on the MEPN/FAR Picnic. There were in excess of 50 attendees. The cost to FAR was \$342.00. Everyone is looking forward to next year's picnic and the possibility of direct participation by the Laurel ARC. Page Pyne (WA3EOP) reported that the Maryland-DC QS0 Party, sponsored by the Antietam Radio Association, was a huge success. In the first two days after the contest, 15 logs were received.

The Federal City REACT Amateur Radio Club will be setting up communications for the MS Challenge 5K run, a "Fun-Run," and a "Wheel

Chair Race" on September 14. Volunteers are needed to help with communications. Contact Lenny Schachter (N3RPQ) or Michael Holland (N3YGU) for details.

The Baltimore ARC will be operating special event station in commemoration of their 50th anniversary and 50 years of affiliation with ARRL. operation will be from 11:00 am - 6:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on September 27. W3FT will be transmitting on HF and VHF frequencies.

The Goddard Amateur Radio Club will be operating a special event station in commemoration of the Apollo 17 Moon landing during December, 1997. More specific information will be forthcoming, but GARC hopes to secure their "old" call sign, WG3SFC (standing for Goddard Space Flight Center), for the special event.

Jerry Gavin (NU3D) reported on the success of amateur radio communications during the Cycle Across Maryland bicycle race.

A FARFest Committee was scheduled immediately following the Trustees' meeting.

A motion to adjourn was entertained at 8:42 PM. The next meeting will be held at the Lee Center in Alexandria, Virginia at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10. See Auto-Call magazine for directions.

E. Allen Brown, WA3FYZ-ZF2AB
Recording Secretary
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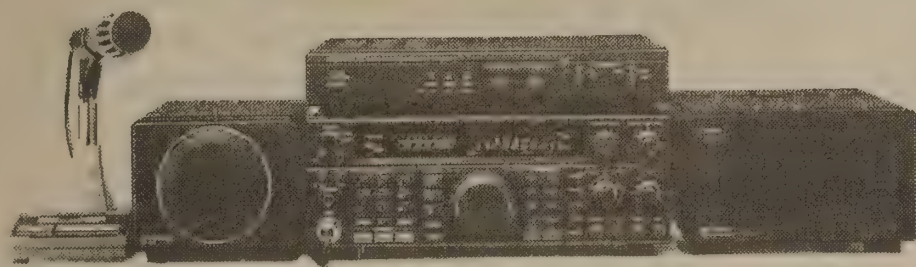
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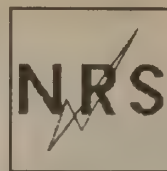
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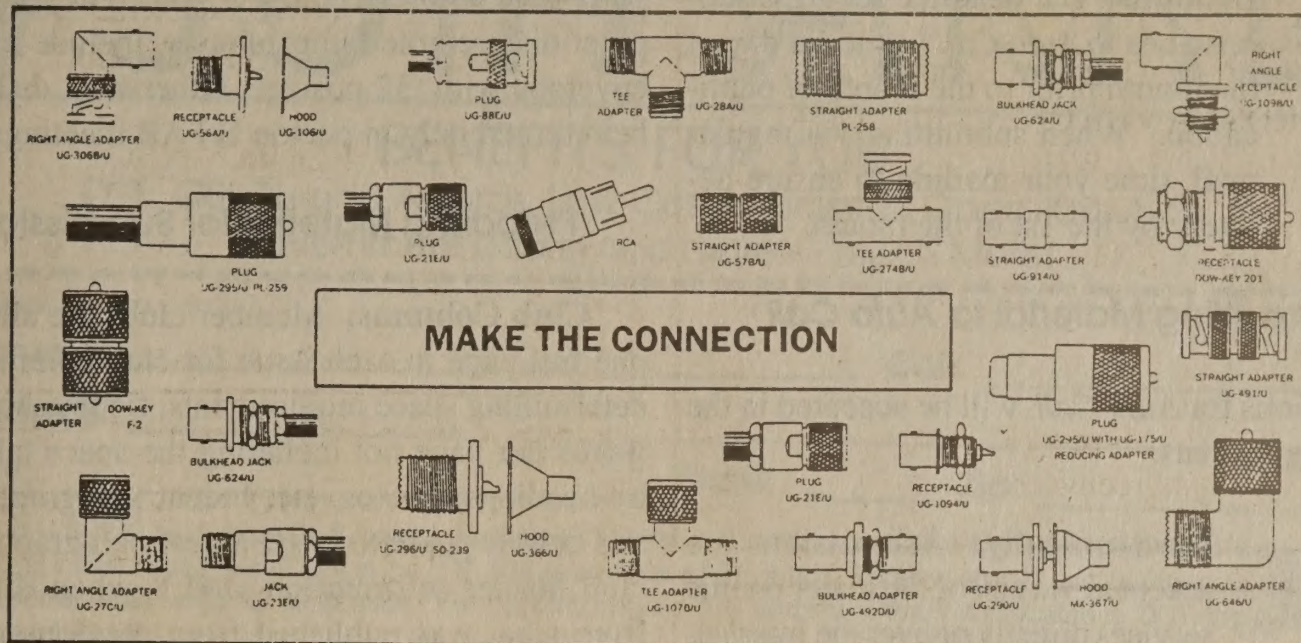
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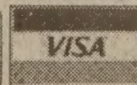
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Deadline: The deadline for ALL submissions to *Auto Call* is the 1st day of the month prior to the month of publication. When submitting via regular mail, time your mailing to ensure delivery by the 1st of the month.

Submitting Material to *Auto Call*

Submissions for *Auto Call* will be accepted in the following formats:



Electronically: Submissions are accepted via any of the major on line services directly or over the Internet. Use the format exactly as follows:

Internet - JohnQueen@AOL.com

America On Line - JohnQueen

AppleLink - johnqueen@aol.com@internet#

BitNet - johnqueen@aol.com@cunyvm

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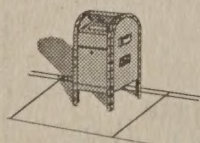
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FidoNet - To johnqueen@aol.com<CR><CR>

GEnie - johnqueen@aol.com@inet#

MCI Mail - mbx: johnqueen@aol.com

Prodigy - johnqueen@aol.com



Regular Mail: Mail typewritten or computer generated hard copy to: John Queen, Editor, *Auto Call* Magazine, 755 Woodland Way, Owings, MD 20736. Ensure that your printed material is dark enough for scanning.



Computer Disk: Submissions are accepted on 3.5" or 5.25" computer disk, in either Macintosh or MS-DOS format, using Word, WordPerfect, or standard ASCII text files. Write your name, telephone number, and club name on the disk. Submit graphic files (club logos, etc) in an EPS or TIFF format. Please verify the readability of your com-

puter files before sending. If you want your computer disk returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with .32 postage. Otherwise, disks will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.

Preparing Material for Submission

Club Columns: Member clubs are allocated one full page in each issue for club columns. In determining space requirements, figure about 700 words per page not including the space taken up by headings, photos, etc. Indent paragraphs .25" and double space to begin a new paragraph. Send club header information ONLY when different from what was published from previous month. The editor reserves the right to edit any submitted material for space, content and/or applicability.

Hamfests/Events: Member clubs are allocated one full page per year to promote one club sponsored hamfest, convention, or special event. Submit clean black & white camera ready copy only by mail. Master copy should be in black ink on white paper and should be in proper page ratio, (Copy space is 7" wide by 9" high). Copy can be reduced or enlarged as necessary. Electronic submissions of Hamfest ads will not be accepted.

Photographs: The editor will select the best photograph submitted for the cover each month. Photographs should depict club members, club stations, or amateur radio related events that are current and noteworthy. Clubs may also submit photographs for inclusion with their club column. Photographs will be used in columns when space permits. Either B&W or color photos can be used. For each photograph submitted, write your name, phone number, and club name, along with a description of the photograph on a piece of paper, and tape it on the back of the photograph. Do not write on the back of your photo. If you want your photos returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with sufficient postage. Otherwise, photos will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.



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Area Club Meetings - October 1997

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 BARC Montgomery	2 Anne Arundel	3 Mobileers Shenandoah	4 Green Mtn.
5	6 DOSARC	7 Antietam PGWA	8 FAR - MD Exp Post	9 AMRAD MADRAS Mid-Atlantic Mt. Vernon HEMARC Fauquier	10 VOA Vienna So. Maryland Alexandria	11 North Point
12 Metro Comm	13 Carroll Co.	14 Leisure Frederick Woodbridge	15 BARC Montgomery Goddard	16 Anne Arundel	17 Shenandoah	18 Capital City QCWA 91
19	20 OVHA Sterling Park	21 Antietam Arlington	22 Laurel Exp Post Moose	23 MADRAS St. Mary's	24 Central MD Vienna	25
26 Adventist (31)	27 Green Mtn. T-MARC	28 Columbia	29 Carroll Co.	30	31	



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